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Weekend



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36-page supplement

INDEPENDENT

Should ours be the only children in the world to eat British beef?

CHARLES ARTHUR Science Correspondent

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The 13 scientists on the independent expert advisory committee on BSE and CJD meet today at 11am to ponder one of the most argent questions ever to face the nation: is it safe for our children to eat beef?

Nobody knows for certain if we are on the brink of an epidemic of CJD that could kill 500,000 people, or a containable problem that might claim a few score lives a year.

The one devastating fact we do know about mad cow disease is that the top scientists in the field have reversed their position about its link with human

With British beef now banned world-wide, and the Consumers Association advising against eating it, we wait for the committee to advise ministers on two crucial issues. Should parents ban their children from eating beef? And why might it be safe for adults to eat

it bul not children? Yesterday Professor John Paltison: chairman of the com-mittee, caused further confusion by saying he would not feed beef to his three-month-old grandson who had never eaten meat, but he would continue to give danger of an epidemic is over?

it to his nine-month-old grand-

 l) Is a single bite of a BSE-infected meal enough to pass on the disease, or does it require

solutely safe to eat?

3) Why should beef be dan-

4) As experiments have shown that BSE can be passed

disease 2.
5) Can the disease be passed to chickens? If not, why did SEAC this week ban the use of

daughter. There are six further key questions about BSE and its risks that have not been answered - and never posed in public by ministers or their advisors. If they are not on Professor Pattison's agenda this morning, they should be.

repeated exposure over a longer 2) Are calf and beef liver and kidney - which are not removed from carcasses - ab-

gerous now, given the safety measures that have been taken in the past six years? But if it is safe, why does the Government keep tightening its mea-

to pigs, are vets and farmers being fold to monitor pigs on farms for any signs of the

all mammalian meat for feed for all farm animals? -- 6) When will we know if the

BSE shockwaves reverberate around the world

The Consumers' Association yesterday told British shoppers to avoid eating beef.

The British beef trade, worth £4bn a year with an export trade of £520m, suffered a huge blow when South Africa, Singapore and most of the European Union countries announced plans to ban British beef. France, Germany, Italy, Belgium, Portugal, Finland, Greece, Cyprus, Holland and Sweden were already refusing to buy British beef yesterday, leading to City speculation that the collapse in the beef trade could lead to dire consequences for the British econ-

Shops and supermarkets were also quick to respond to the crisis about the apparent link between BSE and CJD. Somerfield supermarkets, a 625-store chain, said it

took in the 1980s.

en to stop it.

Professor-Sn-Richard South-

wood was set up to consider the

risks posed by the disease and

what measures should be tak-

Professor Southwood told

intended to include cover for CJD.

sidering using beef from abroad.

Insurance companies, such as Pegasus Assurance and Skandia Life, said that they Schools around Britain continued to strike

was refunding any customers who returned

beef products. The Co-Op, for the first time

in its 150-year history, said that it was con-

beef off dinner menus. Lancashire County Council took beef from all secondary school menus. The council had banned it from primary schools three months ago. In Broadmoor prison, beef was also takoff the menu.

The only person not overly alarmed by the British BSE crisis yesterday was Ireland's Prime Minister, John Bruton, who predicted a massive increase in the sales of Irish

Reports, pages 2,3; Leading article and letters, page 18

When BSE was first identified in 1986, a committee led by

should be carried out right away. But we did say that it would be a decade or so before we saw anything that would tell us whether the disease had passed to humans. We were wrong in thinking it wouldn't get across the species boundary. But what should we have done? Orthe Independent yesterday, "In dered the culling of all the cat-

There are questions, too, defence of our committee, we about the actions—or lack of met on 20 June 1988 and I wrote them—that the Government the next day that certain steps brought in to stop cattle remains being fed back to cattle would have been effective. But some farmers, as we now know, held on to their old, contaminated feeds for at least a year. It's not just us. Society as a whole has to take responsibility for this.

But of course, hindsight is a wonderful thing.

have taken urgent action at that time which could have eased the problems we are now experiencing. Experts in the field point to two key questions:

1) Why did the Government

not begin a crash programme to develop a test which would diagnose BSE in live cattle before they showed symptoms of the 2) Why was an experiment

not begun immediately to see whether BSE could be passed orally to primates such as chimpanzees - an experiment which would have told us the level of risk we would now be facing?

Dr Anne Maddocks, a member of the independent pressure group the Spongiform En-cephalopathy Research Committee, says that the second question is now moot: "There's no point doing the primate ex-periment now," she said yesterday. "It's us. We are the experiment."

The meeting of the 13 scientists, at the Civil Service College, in Sunningdale. Berkshire, is expected to go on today and tomorrow.

Members who have spoken to the Independent are almost fearful of the responsibility before them. "I almost just want to crawl into a hole," one said Yet the Government could this week. "I look at the paper

and think, My God, we've killed off a £500m export industry. You can't imagine what it's like But we have to make these decisions, and we will." Another said "The Government is in very

then they simultaneously want the answer, and only the right answer. It is understandable that the Government does not want to

deep water over this and

they are only too glad to

pass the responsibility for mak-

ing decisions over to us. And

scaremonger. But equally it owes us an explanation after protecting the interests of the meat industry for so long. First, it must lay bare everything it knows - particu-larly evaluations of all the risks posed by eating beef and its products. Not just those we face now but those it kept to itself in the past.

Secondly, it must divest itself of its overly cosy relationship with the meat industry. Anyone who thinks that this relationship is valuable and should be retained should ask the question: who changed the regulations in slaughterhouses which meant that the remains of BSE-infected cattle could be fed back to cows, thus prolonging the agony we all now

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...and The Independent on Monday

WEEKEND The making of the modern girl Part one of a four-part series on the Nineties

MAGAZIME

woman

Men's fashion

After Dunblane: Children take first step back to normality as Howard backs crackdown on sex offenders

Tears as pupils return to school

Some ran and skipped through the main gates, some greeted friends, but there were others who kept close to their anxious parents. It was no ordinary day for the children of Dunblane as they returned yesterday to their primary school for the first time since the massacre nine days ago which left 16 children, their teacher and their killer

Many parents paused at the school gates to hug their chil-dren and speak some private words of encouragement. As they left, some of the adults had tears in their eyes when they emerged from the school after taking in their children.

Educational psychologists and counsellors were on hand to support the 700 children on their first faltering steps to nor-mality. School began as usual at 9am but it was for half a day only, with no assembly, no playtime breaks, and ending at noon. The gym where the massacre happened was sealed and

its windows boarded up.
As the children began to gather inside the building one of their injured classmates, Matthew Birnie, aged 5, was allowed home from hospital. And the Archbishop of Canterbury Dr George Carey speaking in London warned there were limits to forgiveness as he accused the Dunblane killer. Thomas Hamilton, of committing a "heinous" crime. Dr Carey spoke of the Bible's "severe judgement" on child-killers. At the school gates, Ron

Taylor, the headteacher, reflected on the first day back: "As you can imagine, this has been a long dark week full of tears ... However, the evil that came last

week has gone.
"We have really one priority now - to ensure our school becomes a happy place of learn-



Take care: A mother kisses her daughter at the gate of Dunblane primary school as pupils return to their classes for the first time since last week's tragedy

Police plan register of paedophiles

JASON BENNETTO Crime Correspondent

Convicted paedophiles are to be listed on a national register and will be forced to inform the police when they move home. under proposals being considered by the Government.

nounced yesterday by Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, are expected to include a ban on paedophiles working with youngsters as part of a clamp-down on sex offenders. They will be outlined in a

forthcoming consultation paper and could be included in a Crime Bill in the autumn. Mr Howard is known to be in favour of tougher restrictions on

The police have been urging the Government to set up a new system to monitor abusers more closely after a series of cases involving convicted paedophiles who had changed address and secretly started molesting youngsters. They have also been given council houses next to schools and found employment working with children. The police argue that if they were kept informed of the whereabouts of sex offenders they

could prevent many offences. A national register would probably be controlled by the police and held on a central computer, but local authorities would be allowed supervised access. At present the National Criminal Intelligence Service holds a list of about 4,500 convicted or suspected paedophiles in Britain.In 1994 there were 274 people convicted or cautioned for gross indecency with a child, although this does not include child rape. In the same year 109 people were found guilty of unlawful sex with a girl

aged under 13.

The proposals are expected to include the introduction of two new sentences which would force convicted child molesters to tell the police if they changed address - a "residen-cy order" - and would stop them working with children - a "child protection order". If of-fenders broke the orders they The proposed measures, ancould be jailed. Mr Howard, addressing the

National Probation Conference in Coventry, yesterday said: The Government believe there is a strong case for strengthening the arrangements for supervising convicted sex offenders following their release from custody. Protecting the public is the aim which underpins the Government's entire

criminal justice policy."

The police argue that the changes could help to prevent murders of children such Rosie Palmer, aged three, in Hartlepool, Cleveland, who was killed in July 1994 by a man living a few doors away, who had been involved in previous incidents of child molestation which were not reported. Detectives believe this information would have helped the police identify the man more quickly as a suspect.

Chief Superintendent Brian MacKenzie, President of the Police Superintendents' Association, said; "These changes may infringe some civil liberties. hut we believe the rights of children should come before con-

victed paedophiles." Mary Honeyball, general secretary of the Association of Chief Officers of Probation. added: "A register could give some added protection given that sex offenders are extremely prolific in their offending and the impact on their victims is the

WEAVILLER

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Claure Chapman Head Girl. ILPH Rest & Rehabilitation Centre, Norfolk.

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The BSE risk: Families are advised to change their eating habits as countries across the world reject British produce

Watchdog says: Don't eat beef products

JAMES CUSICK

The public were yesterday urged to stop eating beef by the highly-respected watchdog organisation the Consumer Association. The group, amid yesterday's global warnings against British beef, said it had "no choice" but to issue the warning to avoid any risk to the public from cathching the human form of mad cow disease. As sales of poultry, nork and

As sales of poultry, pork and fish soared, the association said: "There is a currently an unquantifiable risk in cating beef." It urged that the Government should make more information available to the public "as a matter of extreme urgency".

Following the warning, the Meat and Livestock Commission, the beet's industry representative group, admitted for the first time that cows infected with BSE could have entered the food chain. In its first published assessment of the risk to humans, the MLC said the risk of exposure to infected food was "one in 1.2m". But it said on that basis that between 1986 and 1989 fewer than 50 people might have been exposed to infected food.

Although the impact of the World Health Organisation's plans for an unprecendented emergency meeting will have serious impact on Britain's global trade, the announcement at home by the Co-op that it is considering huying heef from abroad for the first time in its 150-year history created further panic among retailers.

panic among retailers.

The Co-op, which has 3,000 stores, said it will be looking for alternatives. "There is an opportunity to import beef from abroad from Australia. New Zealand and South America," said the company. The firm said the Government had failed to

IN THE STORES

give firm guidelines with respect to the consumption of beef. Tesco said that its beef was sourced from 18 different suppliers. 11 from the UK and the remainder from the Irish Republic. Country of origin was clearly market on all its products.

No decision had yet been taken to buy beef from elsewhere Sainsbury's said that all of the beef in its stores came from the UK and the Irish Republic but "all of our buving policies are under review". The Irish Prime Minister John Bruton said people were moving over to Irish heef following the new BSE health scare in Britain.

Throughout yesterday cattle sales again plummeted at markets throughout the country. Auctioneers at Ruthin, North Wales, described prices as "disastrous", with only 34 beasts offered for sale compared with about 200 on an average day.

At Derby and Ross-on-Wye, prices fell by up to £140 per animal. Carlisle, the biggest market in the country, saw prices £90 down on last year.

A Lincolnshire slaughterhouse is to be the first in Britain to be prosecuted under anti-BSE regulations designed to prevent infected bovine offal getting into the food chain. The prosecution follows the

alleged discovery of unmarked

bovine offal at a processing plant producing animal feed.

A horse slaughterer, Neil Richard Pawson, trading as H Pawson and Son at Station Road. Donington on Bain, Lincolnshire, is to stand trial at Louth magistrates' court on 13 May. He faces charges related to the non-staining of specified bovine offal removed from catalog control of the control



From Austria to New Zealand the world bans British meat

KATHERINE BUTLER

The world turned its back on British beef yesterday as countries from Austria to New Zealand announced a ban on importing beef from Britain. South Africa, Singapore and New Zealand suspended imports, following the lead of most of the ELL countries.

most of the EU countries.

The prospect of a Brusselsimposed ban looked more likely last night after the European
Commission endorsed the decision of 10 EU member-states
to close their borders to meat
and live-cattle exports from
Britain. Germany, Italy and
Austria joined France. Belgium. Portugal. Finfand.
Greece. Sweden and the
Netherlands in unilateral hans.
Brushing aside claims that it was

illegal to ban trade with Britain, the Commission said governments could invoke the EU treaty to keep out disease. "Member-states have the legal right to take safeguard action either on human animal or even plant health grounds if they feel there is a threat" said a spokesman. Suspension of trade

measures should follow.

Banning British beef was furthermore "completely understandable" in light of Britain's admission that 10 victims of CID may have contracted the fatal brain condition through eating beef.

a decision on what joint EU

"This goes beyond a question of what you can or can't do in legal terms. Clearly we are confronted with a serious publiche aith problem," the spokesman added.

The Commission will only de-

Weather forecast

cide what action must be taken to allay public concerns after it receives the advice of veterinary officers representing the 15 member-states scheduled to meet in Brussels on Monday. But independent scientific advisers to the Commission who gathered yesterday to review the latest evidence were expected to endorse the British findings

pointing to a prohable link be-

iween beef and CJD.

It was not clear last night to what extent an EU ban on British beef exports would affect meat on sale in British supermarkets or hutcher shops. Butchering slaughterhouse regulations or other EU curbs already in place to minimise the BSE risk clearly apply in Britain as well as elsewhere. It is unlikely, however, that the Commission could either legally or politically direct Britain to withdraw beef from British shops on

public-health or consumer-pro-

tection grounds.

Commission officials were also reluctant to be drawn on whether Brussels would order Britain to destroy its entire herd. The Commission, which manages agricultural policy for the 15 states; has in the past operated an EU-funded slaughter policy to contain outbreaks of classical swine fever in Germany and Belgium.

But there are neither funds available to finance the destruction of 11 million cattle in Britain nor a clear opinion that it would be the best option.

One source suggested the Commission would want much more than circumstantial evidence of a link between BSE and CJD before ordering a slaughter-out policy.

slaughter-out policy.

With the EU facing an unprecedented crisis on the overall beef market, the focus was turning yesterday to how to deal with a glut of unwanted mearand the prospect of prices in free-fall.

Top scientists who advise the government

CHARLES ARTHUR

The members of the Spongiform Encephalopathy Advisory Committee (SEAC) start meeting today to decide on advice to parents on whether children should eat beef.

It comprises:
Professor John Pattison, chairman: professor of medical microbiology and Dean of University College, London Medical School. Appointed to the committee last February, and to the chairmanship late last year on the retirement of David Tyrrell, head of the now defunct Common Cold Unit. With 30 years' experience in the field of clinical pathology, Pattison is widely respected in his field. Dr Roh Will, vice-chairman; consultant neurologist and head of the National CID Surveillance Unit in Edinburgh. His team first noticed the unusual cases of the disease which led to last week's bombshell an-

Professor John Collinge, head of the Prion Diseases Group at St. Mary's College Hospital, London, A clinical neurologist whose research group is active in research into BSE and other similar diseases, mainly using transgenic mice. Paper published in the scientific joinnal Nature in late December 1995 suggested that BSE could not cause CID, based on preliminary results with genetically-engineered mice with human genes. The experiments are

continuing.

Professor Ingrid Allen, professor of Neuropathology,

Queen's University of Belfast.

Haswide experience in discussion the central nervous system, particularly multiple science. Professor Fred Brown formerly deputy director semific) of the now defaut, and now visiting scientists the US Department of Agriculture.

Dr William Hueston, veneral epidemiologist, US Days ment of Agriculture.
Dr Richard Kimberlin Stephendem consultant on state related diseases. Has specificated diseases in risk after ment of the dangers posted BSE to humans.

David Pepper, private veteral

surgeon.

Dr William Watson, former director of the Central Veterinary Laboratory.

Professor Jeffrey Almond, a virologist and professor of microbiology at the University of Reading. His own laboratory has been engaged in BSE research for the past five years. Joined SEAC December 1995, Ray Bradley, a veterinary pathologist and chairman of the BSE sub-group of the EC's scientific veterinary committee. Regarded as a world expett on the disease. Joined SEAC in December 1995.

Dr Mike Painter, a consultant in Communicable Disease Control, City of Manchester. Joined SEAC in December 1995. Professor Peter Smith, an epidemiologist from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. Joined SEAC in Jan-

Babies stay on beef

Professor John Pattison, head of SEAC, the independent advisory committee on mad cow disease, said yesterday that he would not give beef to his three month old grandson who had never caten meat, but his nine-month-old granddaughter would continue eating beef,

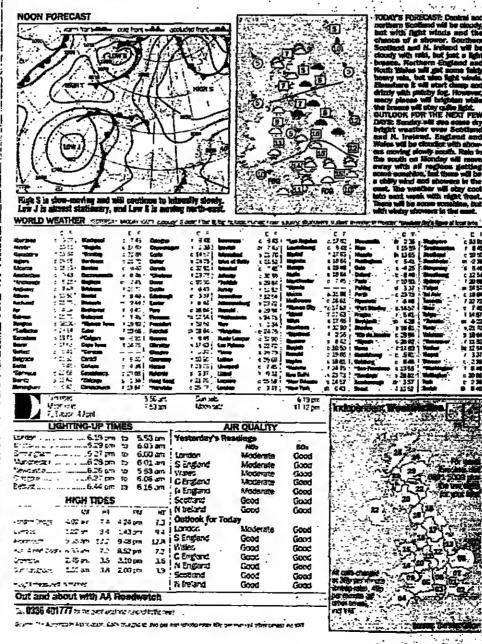
writes Chris Blackhurst.
Speaking on Radio 4's Farning Today programme, Professor Pattison said he had a grandson, aged 3 months, who has yet to cat beet.

My daughter and son in law are simply going to wait another six or 12 months to see what happens before introducing him to heef, he said.

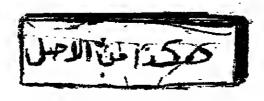
As for his granddaughter, "Our son and daughter-in-law have actually given our granddaughter some beef. They actually prepare the babies' meals from the same material that they use for their own meals."

The professor was criticised by Labour for spreading further

the Government had failed to Brushing aside claims that it was No strings attached. with Mercury MiniCall. MERCURY MINICALL' KEEPS YOU IN TOUCH WITHOUT THE STRINGS. • NO CONTRACT . NO MONTHLY BILLS NATIONWIDE COVERAGE MERCURY MINICALL . EASY TO USE LIFESTYLE ECHO Callot pays to send a measeg £89.99 £69.99 £89.99 AVAILABLE FROM. ARGOS, TANDY, PEOPLES PHONE SHOWROOMS, THE LINK, CURRYS, JOHN LEWIS PARTNERSHIP, NORWES, GRANADA SHOPS, INDEX, OFFICE WORLD, selected branches of DIXDNS AND SHOPS, INDEX, OFFICE WORLD, selected branches of DIXDNS AND SHOPS, DEPARTMENT STORES, Marcury Peging authorized dealers MERCURY For further information, FreeCall 0500 505 505. "When sanding a meesage, calls are charged at 395 per mixture lecon-from payahonds, mobile phanes and other nativority are subject to net from payahonds, mobile phanes and other nativority." 220 eff RRP on white and purple ECHO products. Offer paint networks. "220 eff RRP on white and purple ECHO products. Offer paint







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Economy feels the strain



Cash cow: The crisis in the beef industry could severely limit the Government's ability to deliver tax cuts

DIANE COYLE **Economics Editor**

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The beef crisis could be bad for our wallets as well as our health. if the worst fears about the need to slaughter cattle are borne out. It has already hit the pound, which fell by half a pfennig against the German mark yes-

City of London experts most extreme scenario, gov-ernment borrowing would be billions of pounds higher, tens of thousand of meat industry workers could be unemployed, inflation would rise and growth

of tax cuts in the next Budget and beyond.

· Ian Shepherdson at City firm HSBC Markets said the sharp fall in beef prices would initially reduce retail prices, but in the longer run a reduced UK supply of beef and dairy products would raise imports and in-City of London experts crease inflation. At the outside, warned yesterday that in the if the entire herd were slaughtered, inflation could be 1.5 per cent higher than its current 2.9 per cent.

The loss of British supplies would also damage the baiance of trade. Beef exports -amount to just over £500m a The damage to public sector year, but Britons spend £3.5hn linances could easily dash hopes on home produced beef, some

of which will switch to import- The immediate cost would be ed meat. If dairy exports were also affected; the trade deficit might be as much as £7bn a year

Although consumers will switch to alternatives such as pork and poultry, Mr Shepberdson argued that the crisis. could reduce GDP by more than I per cent in a full year. Other economists thought

the effects on the economy would not be this big; as the loss of the entire herd seems unlikely. However, there could be a severe impact in meat-producing regions such as East Anglia and Scotland. Many predicted the crisis

would have dire consequences

Photograph: Bnan Harris

bealthcare for the unknown future number of victims of CJD compensation for farmers, with preliminary estimates of the enter the equation too, altotal cost of slaughtering all 1 lm though insurers said vesterday cattle put at £7bn to £20bn. The that private medical insurance EU will pick up some of the policies covered the disease. eventual hill for farm compen-A further burden on the sation, but the amount would

public purse will be unemployment benefit for those who lose their jobs in the beef industry. It currently employs about 40,000 people, including 5,500 in slaughterhouses.

Simon Briscoe, an expert on A Treasury spokesman said any estimates of the cost would be government finances at City bank Nikko Europe said: hypothetical, as the extent of "There is a small risk the Govcompensation if meat products ernment will face an enormous had to be withdrawn from the cost of billions of pounds and a very good chance that the cost will run into hundreds of mil-The costs of additional

Next week in THE INDEPENDENT

From Monday, Section Two will have a completely new look, with more pages, new features, a daily radio column and an expanded listings section providing Britain's most comprehensive daily guide to going out.

on Monday

A new section focusing on Family Life, beginning with an investigation into how children's television is threatening the family unit. In the centre pages, each week we challenge the personalities and institutions that have become icons of Nineties life. On Monday, we ask: Do we need Start the Week? Plus: In the second part of our series on the making of the modern girl, we examine teenage attitudes to sex, relationships and marriage.

A 24-page section with all the action from a big weekend of sport. Plus: Part one of a major investigation into the crisis afflicting English cricket. Where does our summer game go from here? And Monday interview with Alan Shearer, the striker who doesn't mind not scoring coals for English goals for England.

on Tuesday

Part three of the making of the modern girl: how the Nineties generation gets what it wants. Plus: Health - a new treatment for chronic fatigue. Also on Tuesday, fashion, architecture, visual arts and media.

Our new back pages section introduces a weekly feature on the history of popular culture.

Theatre, midweek travel section, your money, finance and law. Plus - Final part of the making of the modern girl: what the future holds for the teenager of tha Nineties In our back pages, Martin Newell, Britain's leading rock poet, and Neil Kerber, one of the country's funniest cartoonists, present their views of the modern world.

All our regular features, including Dilemmas, John Walsh's column, plus film, education and graduate plus. In the back pages, William Hartston's history of the world in 101/2 inches

24Seven - a brand new 20-page pull-out-and-keep entertainment and listings section. Including a complete day-by-day planner for the week ahead, plus seven-day TV, radio and satellite listings, ticket offers and informed comment on the week's highlights

Monday

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Whistleblowers say they are vindicated

CHARLES ARTHUR Science Correspondent

Three scientists bave been claiming for years that the threat posed to humans by mad BSE would pass on to bumans, cow disease, or BSE, is far and that an epidemic was on the greater than the Government has admitted Stephen Dealler, Richard Lacey and Harash Narang are independent of each other, but their work bas had a common theme: an epidemie of CJD is on the way because of BSE.

Dr Dealler, a senior registrar at Burnley General Hospital, -has made a detailed study of the epidemiological risks to hu-mans, assuming varying levels of infectivity from BSE-infected beef. In a wide-ranging study, he has also visited meat markets, auctions and abattoirs to find out at first hand whether farmers and slaughterbouse workers were really following the Government's guidelines. He often found that

Richard Lacey, a microbiologist at the University of Leeds, has claimed since 1989 that way. However, he was repeatedly dismissed as a scaremonger, even though he had been proven correct in previous years when be warned of the risks posed by salmonella. He is pre-dicting that hundreds of thousands of people could develop CJD as a result of consuming

BSE-infected foods. Bnt colleagues say that Professor Lacey was too ready to talk to the media when his research was incomplete. Scientists generally prefer to carry out their arguments through the pages of scientific journals rather than through newspapers and TV channels.

tory Service in the 1980s.

Dr Narang is also a microbiologist, but has alienated many other scientists by putting for-ward a theory for BSE - that it

is caused by a "slow virus" which takes decades to act - that conflicts with a number of peerreviewed experiments. Based in Newcastle, he is now funded by a private businessman, having been fired from the Government's Public Health Labora-

He claims to have developed a urine test for both BSE and CJD which can diagnose the disease while the victim is still alive. He claims though that he has been the victim of a witch-hunt in which his car's tyres have been slasbed and his house broken into.

However, other scientists point to what they see as in-consistencies in Dr Narang's work. One is that BSE bas not been linked to any cases of CJD until 10 unusual deaths in humans, apparently from a new strain of the disease, which occurred in the past two years. This, they say, shows that Dr Narang's evidence for a link in 1990 cannot be valid.

Avenues open for families to sue

have to be negotiated by the

claims from the rest of the

meat and meat processing in-

dustry could also be expected.

shelves would be a matter for

Additional compensation

Government

COMPENSATION **PATRICIA WYNN DAVIES** Legal Affairs Editor

While the beef crisis has yet to spawn a stampede of victims rushing for their writs, there are potential avenues for claiming compensation for suffering and

financial damage.
A Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease victim - even one who had consumed burgers in Elvis Presley-type proportions - would make little headway trying to sue the retailers of the foods. That is because of the difficul-ty in proving which of a multi-tude of butchers, burger bars and other foodstores passed on the fatal ingredient, perhaps five

or six years ago.

A complaint against the suppliers of foodstuffs for cows might be a different matter Farmers might also bave possi-

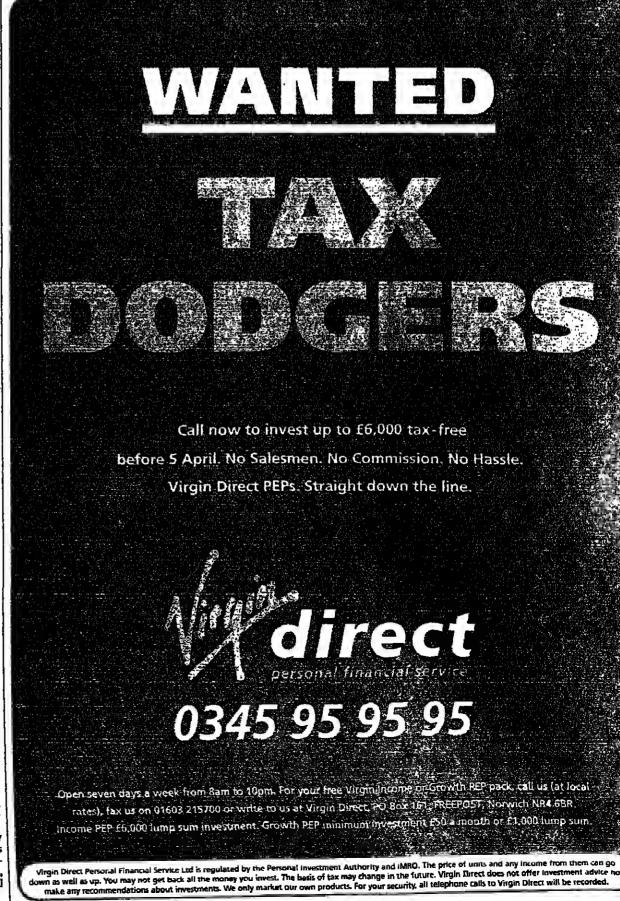
During the Sixties, Seventies and Eighties, the largely self-regulated industry, the so-called reoderers", used sheep scurry to improve protein content of the foodstuffs.

According to Martyn Day, a personal injury lawyer special-ising in "class" actions for multiple clients, a big question is whether the protein, often from old carcasses, was heated suf-ficiently to kill the disease.

A fresh wave of political difficulty for Tory ministers - or their successors - would come if and when people contem-plated suing the Government for negligence. Much would depend on whether the small number of CID cases hides an epidemic. A large number of claimants could give rise to a high-profile class action - and considerable sympathy from

the public. The more CJD cases that emerge, the greater will be the political pressure to pay compensation without putting claimants to proving their cases in court.

. If that day ever came, Mr. Day puts the size of individual claims in six figures. That would cover the horrendous suffering,



Crisis sets Tories against friends in meat industry

CHRIS BLACKHURST Westminster Correspondent

The Government runs the risk of alienating some of its staunchest supporters over the bandling of the beef crisis.

Ties between the Tory party and meat industry go much deeper than the traditional one of the gentleman farmer turned backbench shire loyalist.

The family still most closely identified with beef, the Vesteys. has been a generous giver to the party. While it did not make a donation last year, Lord Vestey's company, Western United Investments, has given £621,000 m the recent past making it one of the Tories'

largest benefactors. Hillsdown Holdings, one of rial special adviser. UK's biggest meat processors and operator of 12 abbatoirs, has an entrée to the highest levthen agriculture minister, was rebuked by a committee of MPs larly gives £8,000 to the City and company, Waldegrave Farms.

for having a £2,000 pond in the garden of his Suffolk home

paid for by Hillsdown. Barry Legg, the Conservative, MP for Milton Keynes South West, was its company secretary before going to Parliament; Sir John Nott, the former Cabinet minister, is its executive chairman and Paul Judge, until re-

director-general, sold them his food company, Premier Brands. Mr Judge was also head of Food From Britain, the government-backed hureau to promote British food overseas. prior to going to Smith Square to try and sort out the Tories' finances. He is now a ministe-

cently the Conservatives

Another large meat company, Samworth, based in Leicestershire, which makes pies and pastics, supports its local Con-

Industrial Liaison Council, widely thought to be a Conservative-supporting organisation.

David Samworth, the company's chairman, is also a former chairman of the Meat and Livestock Commission, the in-

dustry lobbying group.

The MP hardest hit by the scare is likely to be Christopher Gill. Not only is he a farmer but his family firm F A Gill is a meat packer and processor.

Until recently, Simon Burns, the Tory MP for Chelmsford, listed McDonalds, the burger chain, as one of those companies to which he gave parliamentary advice. The company has been dropped from his en-try in the 1995 MPs' register. In all, 28 Conservatives list

farming among their outside interests. At the most senior level, they include William Waldegrave, the Chief Secretary to the Treasury, who owns shares in the family farming loss of amenity and financial

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INLA declares units ready for war

DAVID MCKITTRICK Ireland correspondent

The small but ferocious Irish National Liberation Army yesterday served notice that it considers itself back at war, with all its units "placed on stand-

The threat is being taken seriously by the authorities, since the organisation has on many occasions demonstrated an ability to make violent come-backs

after periods of inactivity. Although much smaller than the IRA and almost certainly incapable of waging a sustained campaign at a high level, its capacity for launching occasional lethal attacks is not in question. It has in the past been responsible for a small number of incidents in Britain, Among the most notorious were the murder of a special constable in North Yorkshire in

the early 1990s.

"We cannot look on idly as the British cynically draw out and fudge attempts at a negotiated settlement while the full oppressive apparatus of the state employed against the nationalist working class. Neither can we allow our reluctance to be sucked into a cycle of violence to be misconstrued as a sign of weakness."

The statement said that as

An INLA statement said: had been placed on standby and whom was Gino Gallagher, one many members did not agree would operate "from a position of defence and retaliation." The emphasis on defence is explained by the fact that the organisation is wracked by internal conflicts which have caused several recent deaths.

This means that a fair amount of its energies are likely to he occupied in feuding rather than attacks on the security forces or loyalist elements. Three people from midday yesterday, its units have died recently, the first of

of the organisation's most notorious gunmen.

This led first to the retaliatory murder of a Belfast man in a County Donegal caravan site. and then the accidental killing of a nine-year-old girl. She was shot dead in north Belfast by men who'were apparently trying to kill a relative.

The INLA was almost com-letely quiet during the 17pletely month IRA ceasefire, although with the peace process. The IRA is assumed to have warned the smaller organisation to halt

its violence. But the ending of the IRA cessation and the tensions gencrated by the present feud. seem to have brought about yesterday's announcement. The section of the INLA which made the statement appears to be the larger part of the or-

other dissident faction is not The Sinn Fein annual con-

ference, which takes place in Dublin this weekend, will have as its centrepiece a keynote speech by the party president. Gerry Adams. The BBC in Belfast vesterday quoted an 1RA source describing John Major's election proposal as a "unacceptable", saying the scheme provided no dynamic ganisation. The strength of the for a resolution of the conflict.

Footballers for trial

Soccer stars Bruce Grobbelaar, 38, John Fashanu, 32, and Hans Segers, 34, were yesterday committed for trial by a magistrate at Eastleigh, Hampshire, to face match-fixing allegations along with Malaysian husinessman Heng Lim, 30. The four are accused of conspiring to give and accept gifts of money as inducements improperly to influence the outcome of football matches or as rewards for having so done.

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Action on dogs

Moves for tougher powers to crack down on dog fouling, imposing fines of up to £1,000, has cleared the Commons. The Dogs (Fouling of Land) Bill gained an unopposed third reading and goes to the Lords with Government backing.

Labour poil boost

Labour is heading for a record win in the Staffordshire South East by-election on 11 April, according to an opinion poll dis-missed by Conservatives. The Birmingham Evening Mail poll gives Labour, on 66 per cent, a 0-point lead over the Tories. The Liberal Democrats were on 13 per cent.

Cathedral siege

Police surrounded the catholic cathedral in Northampton last night after a man, believed to he armed, took shelter there. A negotiating team was in place.

Toothpaste bid blow A bid to launch a mass legal action on behalf of children whose teeth were allegedly damaged by fluoride in ioothpaste suffered a setback yesterday when a High Court judge refused

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Paedophile's jail term 'to protect the unborn' The girls he targeted on his release were aged 6 to 13. The court heard Hodgson be-

A judge jailed a sex molester for 27 years after telling him he wanted to protect Britain's children, including these not yet born. The sentence is one of the longest imposed for offences which do not carry a life term. A charity worker, Raymond

Hodgson, 43, carried out a cat- other youngsters by "wheedling alogue of sex abuse on nine young girls. Police caught him after he had abused four children but he escaped by locking officers in his house.

He went on to semally abuse another five children, after winning the trust of their parents as he travelled around Britain. He was caught when his pho-tograph was shown on the BBC television programme Crimewaich and the station was mundated with calls.

Winchester Crown Court was shown a pornographic video Hodgson made in which he forced a six-year-old girl to perform sexual acts. Judge Martin Ticker QC told him: "Having seen in the video of the sort series of offences these were.

"When you are eventually at liberty the overwhelming probdren and unborn children. 🖫 L am passing a sentence

The court heard wodgson re-offended when he was released

gan working for a charity and befriended one of his employees who had young children. Once he won the family's trust he began abusing the girl. After befriending this girl he met himself into the affections and

trust of their parents". One girl told police Hodgson pulled her into his bed, stripped and removed her pants.

While visiting friends in Gosport, Hampshire, Hodgson abused an eight-year-old girl after giving her shandy. The girl woke in the middle of the night to find Hodgson touching her. She began crying and later told her sister. Police were alerted. But when police went to

arrest Hodgson he conned them into letting him say goodbye to his landlady, locking them in the house while he escaped. He then moved north to Morecombe under an assumed name where he again used his work of things you were doing it must with a charity to abuse anoth-be realised what a revolting er set of children.

Hodgson said be did not know why he had abused the children. Ninety per cent of the ability is you will try to do it time I am like any other in the again. I have got to protect chil- : street and then similations crop up and I lose control," he said.

Hodgson, of Basingstoke, that will keep you inside antil. Hampshire admitted six counts your sexual life is on the wane, of indecent assault, four of indecency with a child and five from prison after a conviction "pirotographs, and one of for apping a 12-year-old girl," unlawful escape.



Last post; Musician Karl Long at the Marines' School of Music which leaves its barracks in Deal, Kent, next week

Judge tells Labour to reconsider ballot

BARRIE CLEMENT

A High Court judge yesterday ordered Tony Blair and the Labour Party's national executive to reconsider their refusal to re-run a controversial selection hallot at Swindon North. Sir Jöhū Vinelott indicated

that the decision of the Labour leadership had been hased on

a misleading presentation of the facts by Peter Coleman, the party's director of develop-

Last month the NEC voted by 14 votes to 9 to set up a subcommittee to appoint a Labour parliamentary candidate for the constituency rather than order a fresh vote.

The first ballot in September was won by Michael Wills,

producer, However, the runnerup, Jim D'Avila, a Rover car factory convenor for the Amalgamated Engineering and Electrical Union, alleged that there

had been irregularities. The hitterness engendered by the dispute has been characterised as a battle between a London "luvvie" and a local working class lad, although the is an oversimplification.

. In his judgment, Sir John conceded he had no power to order the Lahour Party to change a "political" decision and refused to grant an injunction to Mr D'Avila, who was backed by his union. "The only fair course for Mr D'Avila and the local electorate is to ask the NEC to take a fresh look at this, free

Mr Coleman, which were not fair to Mr D'Avila," the judge

The veteran Labour campaigner for the disabled, Alf Morris, last night said he was reliring at the next election. Mr Morris, MP for Wythenshawe, Manchester, who celebrates his 68th hirthday today, has a ma-

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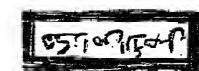
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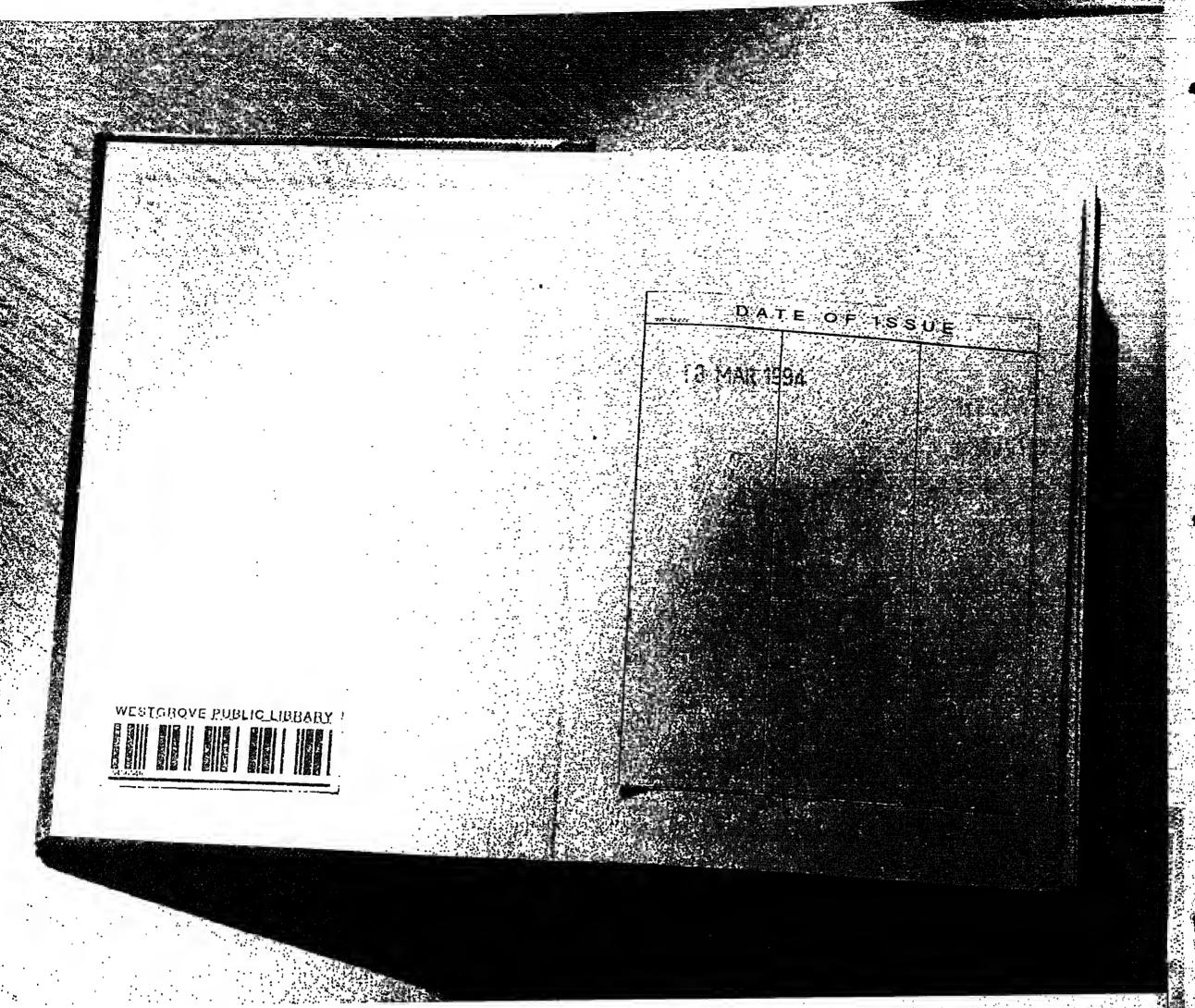
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Doctor used patients as guinea pigs

drug trials without their knowledge or consent, was struck off

the medical register yesterday.

Dr Geoffrey Fairhurst, 57, of Warrington, Cheshire, was told his name would be taken off the register after a three-day hearing at the General Medical Council in London found him guilty of using his patients as unknowing participants in trials of potentially dangerous drugs, for which he received payments

Dr Fairhurst had been accused of foreing signatures of four patients at his surgery in St Helens, Merseyside, without their written or verbal consent.

He was said to have been caught out when a partner at the surgery. Dr David Edwards, "turned whistleblower" and re-ported him to the GMC.

After the decision, Miss Rosalind Foster, barrister to the GMC, told its professional conduct committee this was an ex-

ample of "the bigger they come, the harder they fall".

Dr Fairhurst, a government advisor on health and a former JP, was also chairman of a med-

ical ethics committee. Patients had an absolute right" to decide whether to participate in drug trials after being given full information. You have found that four patients in three trials have been .

denied that right."

The doctor who had "blown the whistle" had been hadly affected and had to accept "a Geoffrey Fairhurst: Caught

activities of Dr Fairhurst had "a grave potential for harm".

The hearing was told of bitter disagreement between the two doctors. Dr Fairhurst, had been paid sums of money by Glazo Pharmaceutical and other drug companies between 1988 and 1995. Miss Foster said Dr Edwards decided to become a "whistleblower" because he was concerned for the

safety and welfare of patients. Dr Edwards claimed to have discovered dishonesty and the falsification of drug records for trials, mainly for treatments for heart complaints and high Nicola Davies QC, for

Fairhurst, said the case had a "deeply unhappy hackground".

Dr Edwards had a strong dislike for Dr Fairhurst. Further



false signatures on consent forms. She was not suggesting the patients were lying, but it was significant they had all been in ill health and on a number of medications for many

The committee was later considering whether the doctor was guilty of serious professional misconduct. Sir Donald Irvine, president

of the GMC and chairman of the professional conduct committee, told Dr Fairhurst he had abused the trust of patients and undermined the medical profession. Sir Donald also encouraged other doctors to report malpractice after hearing how colleague Dr David Ed-wards and Dr Min Shah blew

the whistle on Dr Fairhursi. Striking Dr Fairhurst from the register he said: "Trust lies at the heart of the practice of medicine. Patients must be able to trust doctors with their lives and well being. That trust must

'Medical research is fundamental to the advance of medical practice and must always be conducted with scrupulous honesty and integrity. Where doc-tors intend to involve patients in clinical trials, it is essential that they first give those patients a proper explanation.

Patients have a right to know what it involves and understand the implications for them before they are invited to take part. No trial should ever be carried out without the consent of the patient."



Boot sales trade on 'carnival spirit'

GLENDA COOPER

Car boot sales are not just stand-ing in the rain and the mud to buy a video that you know will

According to investigation. boot sales offer an anarchic, family, "carnivalesque" experience, are truly democratic and can earn a vendor £8(#) a week-

The report, funded by the Economic and Social Research Council, reveals that an estimated I million people go to car boot sales every weekend, not just to pick up bargains, hut because they enjoy the experience main draws, researchers found consumers were attracted by the performances of the sellers.

The secret of the sales' success since the 1970s, is the different experience they offer from the conventions and pre-

dictability of the shopping mail. "Much of the pleasure comes from pitting one's skills against others; from knowing that things might not be what they seem, that they almost certain-ly won't work . . . but there's just a chance that they might - and that would make something a real bargain." Dr Louise Crewe, one of the authors of the

report, said. Although the opportunity to pick up bargains was one of the main draws, researchers found spectacle and the ability of the

boot fair to capture "the absurd, the grotesque, the ridiculous

and the downright hilarious". Regular sellers perform. Some adopt the style of the market-stall holder, others act like hawkers or peddlers and others take on the conventions of the rairground - roll up, roll up" or the comedy act. "For [amateur booters] the

sense of carnivalesque comes from ... the sheer absurdity that they can participate in a phenomenon which entails geiting up at the crack of dawn on a Sunday morning, driving to a remote location ... parking with hundreds of others before daybreak, often in rain and mud.

The report found hoot sales attract people of every social class and age, scotching the notion that boot sales are the preserve of "recessionary Britain's underclass. Only 4 per cent

were unemployed. The average "booter" spends £7,96 at each sale and buys eight items. Sellers can make a profit of about £90 each and in some cases up to £800 a weekend.

Many local authorities were worried about hoot sales flouting retail legislation - especialtrading standards. Many perceived them as places where petty criminals flourished. But Dr Crewe said: "Car

boot sales are clearly here for the long run.

Family's 'strain' over coma mum case

The husband of the Scottish right-to-die patient Janet Johnstone told last night of the "tremendous strain" his family has been under after hearing that five judges had delayed a decision on the case.

In the latest stage of a pro-tracted court battle. Scotland's op judges agreed in opinions released yesterday that the Court of Session in Edinburgh had the power to make a recommendation that doctors at Law Hospital in Carluke, Lanarkshire, should be al-lowed to withdraw artificial feeding from Mrs Johnstone, 53. But they said the civil courts could not give doctors immunity from prosecution.

The case - the first in Scotland - has now been referred back to a single judge. Lord Cameron of Lochbroom, who heard evidence earlier and asked for guidance from senior udges. His ruling is expected within the next few weeks.

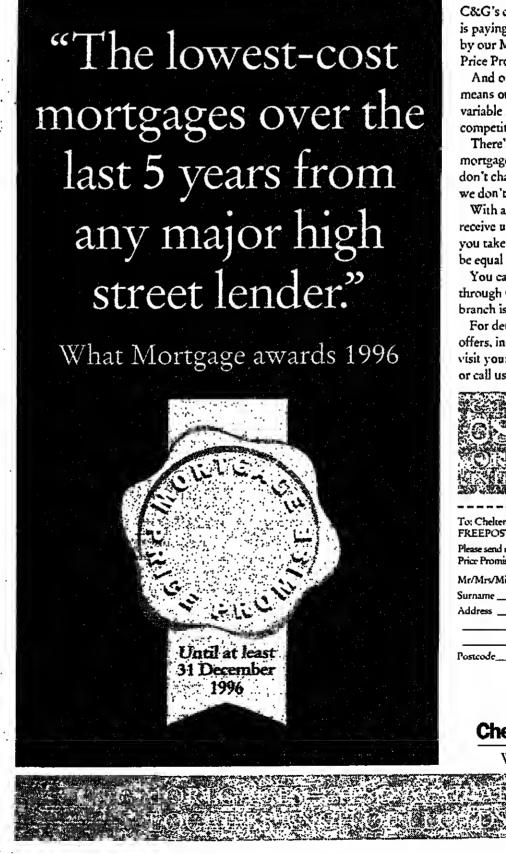
Mrs Johnstone has been in a coma since taking a drug over-dose in January 1992.

Her husband Peter, of Allanton, Lanarkshire, said: Janet would have wanted to dic in peace and with dignity. The decision is taking so long. The whole family has been put under a tremendous strain because of it. I feel so helpless.

The hospital had asked the Court of Session to rule that doctors may "lawfully disconinue" treatment of Mrs Johnstone. However, medical experts, supported by the woman's family, say she is in a persistent vegetative state with no prospect of recovery. Howcould be charged in the criminal courts if they withdraw feeding and let her dic.

great deal vitriol". She said the out by whistie-blower THE PAPER — THE WRITERS "If the predictions are true, and millions of us will be infected by 2010, at least there's one consolation. We may well end up thick, but we'll all have impressive-sounding letters after our names: B.S.E., C.J.D. (Oxen)" VICTOR LEWIS-SMITH **EVERY SATURDAY** "Only the very brave or the very stupid would continue to eat beef in these uncertain times. Which brings us back to John Gummer .." **TONY PARSONS EVERY MONDAY**





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MARIANNE MACDONAL Media Correspondent

The BBC yesterday came finder fierce criticism for plays to show a Saudi Arabian criticinal

being beheaded with a sword, in a move that could faither undermine Britain's relationship

The documentary was trig-

gered by controversy over the

Saudi dissident Mohammad al-

Masari, 49, whose deportation from London was ordered after he allegedly attempted to undermine the Saudi government.

Mr Masari was tortured for

six months and lost his job as a

professor of physics after he es-

tablished the Committee for the Defence of Legitimate Rights.

a human rights group, in Sau-di Arabia in 1993.

reconsidering its decision to deport the Islamic activist, who

has also embarrassed the British government by repeatedly denouncing the "corruption" of the Saudi royal family. The documentary is likely to

further sour relations between

Britain and Saudi Arabia. In its

listing, the BBC describes the

country as "what many consid-

er to be the world's most bru-

It continues: "Last year near-

ly 200 people were publicly be-headed in Saudi, many for offences involving trafficking, alcohol and adultery, yet the British government does not

dare to criticise its close Mid-

tal and despotic regime".

The Home Office is now

with Saudi Arabia.with Saudi Arabia.

The shots of the public execution are due to be shown on Panorama on 1 April . 4

Polly Peck scandal: Former financier Elizabeth Forsyth faces years in prison as her disgraced employer languishes in hiding

Banker jailed over £400,000 PPI theft

banker, was convicted at the Old Bailey today of laundering £400,000 stolen by her ex-employer Asil Nadir from his public company Polly Peck

custody by Mr Justice Tucker for pre-senience reports: a defence application for bail was turned down. The judge warned her to be under "no illusion as to the likely nature of the sentence".

Forsyth., from Great Dunmow in Essex, had denied two charges of handling the stolen

thrown out.. His solicitor Peter Krivinskas said Nadir planned to apply to the High Court for the case to be dropped on the grounds of abuse of process, Nadir alleges general abuse, but the claim is understood to centre on the Serious Fraud Office's handling of the case and prejudicial media coverage.

The jury's verdict today, in tive tycoon, in his absence, of

Elizaheth Forsyth, a former charge which he was facing when he jumped hail three years ago, four months before he was due to stand trial, and fled to North Cyprus...

The jury of seven women and five men, who deliberated on International. five men, who deliberated on the verdict for nearly 12 hours, were told that before they could find Forsyth guilty that the Crown had first to prove that Nadir had stolen the money. As chairman of South Aud-

lev Management (SAM) Forsyth managed the Nadir family's private businesses and wealth. She had helped Nadir cash in October 1989.

Lawyers for Asil Nadir are now expected to apply for the £30m theft charges against the fugitive husinessman to be

The prosecution said that in October 1989 Forsyth went to Geneva to withdraw £400,000 in cash. The following day she deposited just over £300,000 in a different bank with instructions that it should be transferred to AJ Bekhor, a London stockbroker to whom Nadir owed money. Forsyth returned to Britain the next day and gave the remaining cash to a chauffeur to bank. It was to pay mon-



'Under no illusions': Elizabeth Forsyth (left), convicted yesterday of laundering £400,000 for her former boss Asil Nadir (right)

don. She claimed she had no knowledge of the monies' ori-Forsyth maintained she had gin and had no reason to believe been sent to Geneva by Nadir simply to "hold the hands" of anything she was doing was unlawful. Geoffrey Robertson his bankers there following the QC. her counsel, said Forsyth Black Friday crash on the US had been simply doing her duty when she was ordered to carry markets, While in Geneva she said she was asked by a former director of SAM to withdraw

The SFO say they are intent the cash and transfer it to Lon- on prosecuting Nadir, although

he remains a fugitive in Cyprus. ber 1994 she decided to return A warrant is out for his arrest and he has been placed on

Interpol lists.
Forsyth had herself gone to Northern Cyprus in early 1992. She had been questioned by the SFO the previous year, and in the summer of 1992 she learnt that the SFO wanted to interview her again, and in Septem-

to Britain to face the music. Forsyth was on hail through-

out the five-week trial and was supported on many days by her 89-year-old mother. Asil Nadir had been regard-

men in Britain. His £1.3bn PPI empire collapsed soon after the Serious Fraud Office raid-

ed SAM'S Mayfair premises in

Photograph: Reuter

As a businessman, Nadir had

won Queen's Awards for industry, and had been invited to 10 Downing Street several times by the then Prime Minister Mrs Thatcher, Mr Robinson said, adding that Nadir had also contributed large sums to

dle East ally for fear of losing lucrative arms contracts. UK exports to Saudi Arabia totalled £1.5hn in 1994, but Saudi Arabia has indicated that if the Home Office refuses to. deport Mr Masari it could withdraw husiness contracts with

Britain. Roger Gale, chairman of the influential Tory backbench media committee, said yesterday; "If they are going to show de-capitation I would regard this as wholly grattitous unpleas-

A BBC spokeswoman said: "It is not sensational. You do not actually see heads rolling on

a Leicestershire estate owned by

companying the letter referred to the "applauded efforts of the collective to minimise their im-"The considerations favouring

pact on the environment within the site . . . There was considerable public support for this project and no one doubted the sincerity of the group's aims and intentions."

were concerned that the granting of planning permission

would encourage further travellers to settle.

"My view is that a favourable decision here would lead to similar applications and consents for temporary sites for henders or tents with a serious cumulative impact on the rural landscape and the provisions of public services," the inspector said. The collective has 12 months to find new homes.

Barch

Travellers may fight Gummer's refusal of 'living village' panels, uses dead wood for In a letter Mr Gummer, said: The inspector's report ac- would set a precedent that

JOJO MOYES

A group of travellers may appeal to the High Court after the Secretary of State for the Environment turned down planning permission for them to build an "experimental sustainable living system" in a field they had bought in Somerset.

In what was seen as a test case, the 20 members of the Kingshill Collective were the

subject of a planning inquiry likely to set a precedent for "alternative dwellers" across

Nearly two years ago they bought four acres of land near Glastonbury and applied for permission to set up home. Their alternative village, comprising to "benders" - semi-permanent homes made from largely organic materials - takes its power supply from solar

heat and draws water from a bore hole at the top of the field. But it was denied permission

by Mendip District Council, which said it was seeking to pro-tect the rural and visual character of the area. The refusal and appeal triggered several cases where John Gummer, the Secretary of State, "called in" theirs and similar judgements

the grant of planning permission include continued security, savings to the public purse, sustainability and experimental But he added: "The view is taken that all of these considerations... are not of sufficient

But it said that local residents strength to outweigh the strong planning objections, including the highway objections."

Ravi Low Beer of the Public Law Project, who has repre-sented the collective, said that the decision was "disappointing hut not unexpected" and that they were considering ways to appeal. We say that these people shouldn't be evicted, that once humanitarian issues have heen raised the onus is on the public bodies concerned to show why people should be evicted," he said.

Irritable Bowel Syndrome pain ruled my life. But Relaxyl* changed

the rules."

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The individual's experience of the syndrame con vory so widely. If you are in any doubt you should cansult your doctor.

IBS: WHAT CAUSES IT AND WHY DOES IT CONTINUE?

It's likely that stress ar a bout af gostro-enteritis con trigger IBS. Once offected, the intestine then reacts unpredictably to certain things, such as parlicular foods and further stress.

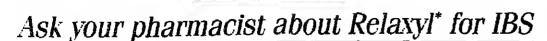
Simply, your intestine goes inlo sposm: it knots up. Frequently this results in poin; olthaugh the other symptoms moy olsa stem from this.



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Dusted off: Marilyn Dalton, general manager of Audley End House at Saffron Walden, Essex, arranging one of its tens of thousands of stuffed birds and animals for the new season's re-opening on 3 April Photograph: Bnan Hams

Stargazers hope cloudbreak will give sight of Hyatukake

TOM WILKIE and PAUL FIELD

Britain's clouded skies have so far denied thousands of amateur and professional astronomers any glimpse of the brightest comet to grace our skies for 20

And the disappointment is likely to continue, according to weathermen. The BBC Radio forecaster Philip Eden reported that the only breaks in cloud covering Britain today are expected to be in south-east England and north-west Scotland. By tomorrow, only stargazers in the Highlands and Islands of Scotland will stand a chance of spotting the comet.

However by Monday - the day of comet Hyakutake's closest approach to Earth - there should be some hope for peo-ple in the north-west of Eng-land. Only by the middle of the week might there he a break in the cloud over eastern England. If the clouds do lift next week, the comet should be

Tait spin: Full view of Comet Hyakutake Photograph: AP

among the brightest objects in appear virtually stationary to the the sky, easily bright enough to naked eye. The comet is basibe seen with the naked eye. It will be visible virtually all night from Britain, Looking east, it will appear among the stars close to the constellation of the Plough, gradually changing its position in the sky in successive evenings before disappearing from view in the vicinity of the Pleiades at the end of April, Contrary to popular belief, comets do not flash across the

sky, so Hyakutake will actually

cally a hall of dust and ice, just a few kilometres across, which was formed at around the same time as the planets. As it nears the sun, ice and dust stream off the nucleus, forming an atmosphere and a tail. There is also a straighter, nar-

rower "plasma" tail - consisting of jonised gases. This writhes as it is blown by the "solar wind" a stream of charged atomic the sun. Kinks often appear in this tail and sometimes it appears to drop off altogether. lonised water is an important

constituent of the plasma tail and is formed by water molecules escaping the nucleus and then being hombarded by the sun's ultraviolet radiation.

Among the many observations which will be made of the comet around the world, at the Mullard Space Science Laboratory of University College London, the astronomer Geraint Jones will be looking just at the light from this ionised water molecule, by using a colour litter to block out all other wavelengths. The study will east light on the chemistry of the comet and trace how the molecutes are accelerated though space by the solar wind.

The comet was discovered in late January by a Japanese amateur astronomer. Yuji Hyakutake, using large binoculars. Its orbit is thought to take around 18,000 years to complete a circuit around the sun.

Barclay brothers seek 'UDI' for island

CHRIS BLACKHURST

David and Frederick Barclay, the reclusive multi-millionaire ... owners of the Ritz Hotel in London and the Scotsman and European newspapers, yesterday formally applied for effective independence for Brecquau, the tiny island they own in the Channel Islands. Also yesterday, a court in St

Main, France, began hearing a complaint by the Barclay brothers that they were falsely accused of corruption in a fief of Sark"; that a law of 1611 BBC interview, broadcast in Guernsey last October and heard on the French mainland.

effectively declaring UDI for Breeghou, where they are cur-rently building a mock-Gothic clifftop fortress hame. Their application may ultimately have to be resolved by the Judicial Committee of the Privy Coun-

If successful, the brothers, who eschew all personal pub-licity, will avoid paying Sark's minimal taxes and will have a tighter control over who can, and cannot, visit their domain. They have been complaining to Michael Beaumant, the Seigneur, or governor, of Sark, about the island's police force

worth an estimated £600m. They told Guernsey's Royal Court, the island's equivalent of the High Court in England, yes-terday, that in their view Brec-

larger neighbour, which tradi-tionally has ruled over the island. Giving their addresses as Avenue Princess Grace, Monte Carlo, the brothers demanded repayment from the Sark authorities of £179,000 in property tax they were required to pay when they bought Brecohou in 1993 for a reported £2.3m.

In their declaration, made for them by Lloyd Strappini, one of the Channel Islands' leading lawyers, they declared that "Brecchou forms not part of the banning the break-up of Sark did not apply to their island; and that the Court of the Seneschal In a move disclosed in the of Sark the island's highest au-Independent, the Barclays are thurity] has no jurisdiction over Brecchnu".

Mr Beaumont, who inherited the title from the legendary Dame of Sark, asked for more time to prepare his defence. The court granted a request from his lawyer, David Le Marquand, whn said the Seigneur would need "lots of time". If the St Malo case goes against the BBC, the judgment

is likely to be seen as a significant legal precedent and may pave the way for further actions against media, printing or broadcasting in the UK and be-ing read and heard in France.

The Barclay twins are claiming criminal libel damages of visiting Breeqheu ing criminal libel damages of £108,000. They complain that in the BBC Radio Guernsey interview with Observer journal. ist John Sweeney, they were wrongly accused of having en-gaged in acts that could he qualified as corruption. The BBC has said it will contest the

ohou forms no part of Sark, its allegations "vignrously". Screening by GPs faces axe

NICHOLAS TIMMINS Public Policy Editor.

year health promotion package undertaken by family doctors which academics say is largely a waste of taxpayers' money.

The scheme involves GPs counting their patients aged 15-74 whn smoke, recording their blood pressure, alcohol advice on a better lifestyle.

The scheme - which pays family doctors thousands of pounds a year if they hit all their targets - has been one of the contract the Government imposed on GPs in 1990. GPs say it is bureaucratic, untargeted and involves counting numbers rather than genuinely inter- of this particular programme wening to improve health.

Stephen Dorrell, Secretary of State for Health, has told GPs' leaders at the British Medical profession over the programme, shift more of the work tradito consider its abolition."

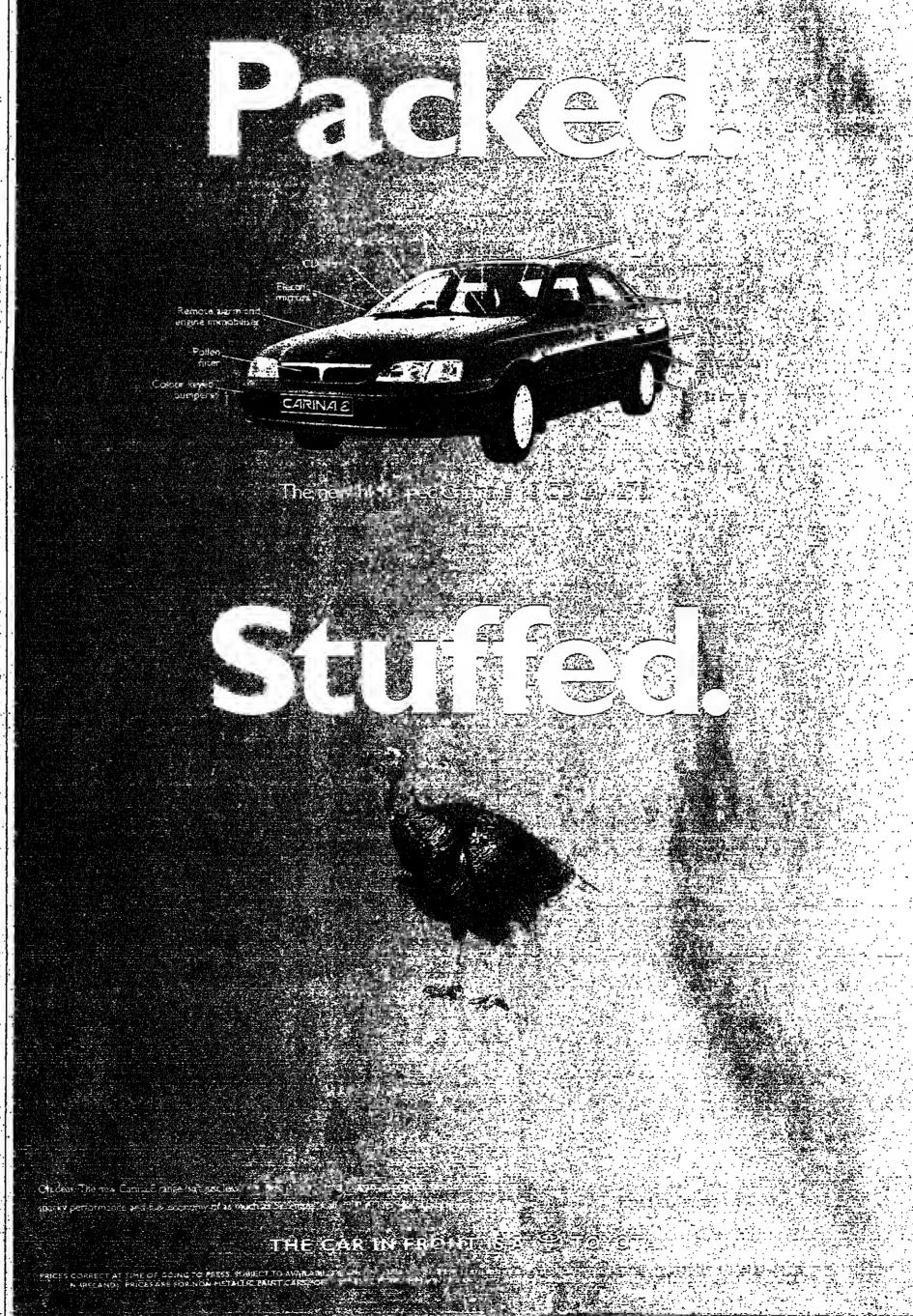
An evaluation in 1994 of the British Family Heart Study, which uses intensive interven-The Government is prepared to tinns by nurses to try to per-consider abolishing an £85m-a-suade individuals to change their lifestyle, concluded it was "of little benefit". The gains from the less-intensive programme most GPs offer were therefore "likely to be even

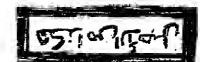
smaller", the study concluded, A cut in heart disease and stroke is one of the Governconsumption and obesity; their ment's Health of the routing family history of heart disease on those who have heart disease on those who have heart disease or are known to be at high risk

was likely in give better results.

Dr lan Bogle, chairman of
the BMA's family doctors' committee, welcomed Mr Dorrell's more controversial parts of the move yesterday, but stressed that neither Mr Dorrell nor GPs wanted in put an end to health promotion in general practice. It's just that we want to get rid and the way it is constructed."

The change is likely to come as part of a new contract which Mr Dorrell has indicated will be Association that he recognises . nn offer if he and GPs' leaders "the distatisfaction" within the can agree on changes that will adding: "I am therefore willing tinnally done in hospitals into





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Kremlin digs in heels over Nato expansion

Europe Editor

The United States and Russia failed yesterday to narrow their differences over Nato's plans to incorporate former Communist countries in central and

Speaking after a meeting in Moscow herween President Boris Yeltsin and the US Secretary of State. Warren Christopher. Russia's Foreign Minister. Yevgeny Primakov, said: "Russia will never accept Nato enlargement, not hecause it has any right of veto, but because it will not tolerate a worsening geopolitical situation and will stand by its interests."

Russia's leadership regards Nato's planned expansion as a challenge to Russian security that could throw Europe back into a second "fee Âge" of East-West confrontation. But Mr Christopher, speaking in Prague last Wednesday to 12 central- and eastern-European foreign ministers, reaffirmed that Nato had committed itself to expansion and said the renot be kept waiting forever.

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compromise might be possible if Nato did not move its "military infrastructure" into potential new member-states such as the Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland, However, both Nato and the three central European states are adamant that Russia cannot dictate the terms of their admission into the alliance.

Nato's Secretary-General, Javier Solana, visited Moscow earlier in the week and urged Russian leaders to recognise that Nato no longer resembled the military alliance that it was in Cold War times. However,



Mr Primakov suggested a Mr Christopher: Adamant

the Russians repeated their argument that Nato's expansion vould represent an unacceptable extension of Western influence up to Russia's borders.

Despite the clash of views over Nato, Mr Christopher made clear that the US still had faith in Mr Yeltsin's reformist potential and hoped he would emerge victorious from next presidential election. He said that President Bill Clinton's policy was "to support the reforms and those who are enthusiastic about reforms and who are carrying out reforms. That has brought him into strong support for President Yelisin on prior occasions."

Mr Clinton is due to travel to Moscow on 19-20 April for a summit with Mr Yeltsin on nuclear security. The visit is likely to be interpreted as a show of US solidarity with Mr Yeltsin. Mr Yeltsin faces a strong

challenge from the Communist leader. Gennady Zyuganov. whose party sent shock waves across eastern Europe last week hy pushing a resolution through Russian parliament that called for the restoration of the Soviet Union, However, the parliament avoided a clash with Mr Christopher yesterday by ignoring a draft resolution from a Communist deputy that denounced the Secretary of State

for criticising last week's vote. Mr Yeltsin, the chief architect of the Soviet Union's dissolution in 1991, has declared himself firmly opposed to Mr Zyuganov's stated aim of recreating the Soviet state by peaceful means. However, after his talks with Mr Christopher, Mr Yeltsin was playing host to the President of Belarus, Alexander Lukashenko, who advocates the integration of his country with Russia.

"I will propose to Mr Yeltsin the signing of a treaty free of all amhiguities and creating union institutions of a supranational nature," Mr Lukashenko said before leaving Minsk for Moscow. When he visited Moscow last month, he and Mr Yeltsin signed documents on inlegration that have yet to be

The Russian authorities have not been entirely enthusiastic ahout Mr Lukashenko's proposals in the past, partly because they would require substantial Russian economic support for

orange



Proof of Serb crimes revealed

EMMA DALY

The US has, for the first time, released aerial photographs apparently showing the mass hurial of Muslim men from Sreprenica who were executed by Bosnian Serbs after the fall of the enclave in July 1995.

Madeleine Albright, the US ambassador to the United Nations, visited the site at a farm in eastern Bosnia yesterday, then issued photographs to journalists in Sarajevo.

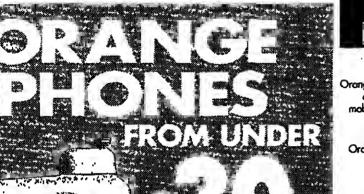
There is evidence that this is a place where there was systematic murdering of large numbers of people 1,000," Ms Albright said after her visit to Branjevo farm.

Some evidence for the massacre has come from Serbs who admitted their involvement. They say Muslims were rounded up in Potocari, where Dutch UN troops in Srebrenica were based, then taken by bus north to the site at Branjevo. There, unarmed and defenceless, the men were led out, 10 at a time, and shot.

The two photos, before and after, show an ordinary ploughed field at Branjevo farm on 5 July, on 17 July, a week after the fall of Srebrenica, the field shows the tracks of heavy vehicles, an excavator at work, a mound of earth, and a large number of objects identified by US officials as bodies.

The Yugoslav war crimes tribunal yesterday issued its first indictments for war crimes allegedly committed against

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Silent witness: Madeleine Albright, US ambassador to the United

site of the mass grave, 100km north of Srebrenica

Russians try new tactics to flush out Chechen fighters

It is growing dark and we are in a red-brick building which could easily he mistaken for an English parish hall, were it not in a Chechen village in the middle of a war zone.

To its occupants, a group of separatist fighters, it is headquarters, a place to plan nocurnal raids on the marauding Russian army. To the Russians, it is a pocket of resistance, one of those targets which they are under orders to destroy.

But to me, a journalist seeking interviews, it seems more like a local social club, a version of the British Legion in the Cau-casus. In the kitchen, two women are peeling onions and boiling water for tea. On the bashed-in sofas and armchairs around the room sit a handful of men, some in fighter's clothes, others in mufti. Every generation is represented here, from a pale boy in fatigues who looks far too young to kill. to a grizzled one-eyed veteran, who looks far too old to do so.

One of the Chechens tells us that the Russian army is less than 10 miles away: we can hear occasional artillery fire and exchanges of machine-gun fire. Two or three fighters, mere youths. lounge around and smoke on the balcony, appar-ently keeping watch, with their rifles nearby. There is probably no need. The rebels have many supporters out there amid the apple orchards and the muddy lanes, law-abiding residents who would none the less alert them if the Russians arrived.

The leader, Doku Makhayev, a lean man with a dense black heard, is sitting on a bed in the corner, under a wall decorated with posters of the guerrilla leaders Dzbokhar Dudayev and Shamil Basayev and a Chechen flag. He is in uniform, and car-

Phil Reeves finds a group of separatists in Chechnya optimistic at the prospect of a new onslaught

ries a knife with a fox's-foot han-dle in his breast pocket, a pis-tol at his hip, and the TV agreements were. They might as channel controller in his hand.

Before the war, he was a construction worker. Now, at 41. though a father of five, he is a full-time fighter: regimental and deputy chief commander of the south-western sector, known as Sector Number One. He has 11 villages on his patch, including this one.

For him, these are particu-

larly troubled times. The Rus-

well be "death warrants", be said. Just look at the fate of Novogroznensky. a village which - according to several reports - had signed an agreement, but was still shelled.

The strategy of the Russians and the Moscow-backed government of Doku Zavgayev (who claims 77 villages have now signed) is to try to drive a wedge through Chechen communities, sians have lauoched an causing peaceful residents to

We have arms and transport. our people are rested and our wounded are being taken care of'

offensive in which they are trying to flush out Mr Dudayev's forces from the villages by persuading elders to sign agreements, promising to expel the fighters from their midst. Those that refuse to do so risk joining the lengthening list of settle-ments which the Russians have been - and, in some cases, this

week, still were - bombarding.
"In this village, people are not going to sign," said Mr Makhayev. "There are certain circles who are willing, but they wouldn't dare." His men were therefore stockpiling weapons, and preparing their defences in readiness for a Russian onslaught.

Last month, he said, the separatists held a series of rallies turn against the local fighters whose presence could lead to their doom. It is, however, easy for the rebels to shrug off responsibility for any bloodshed; they can blame the Russians.

They also tend to argue that death is a matter determined only by Allah - no matter how many Russian shells shower down from the heavens. And the Kremlin has almost certainly failed to understand the complexity and depth of the relations which knit together peaceable Chechens with the boyevika, the fighters. Talking to Mr Makhayev,

one is inclined to dismiss him as a boaster, a hraggart lacking any clout. This evaporates when he suddenly turns up the TV set,

ian current affairs programme. He explains that he arrested one of its journalists, for editing pictures of corpses into a recorded interview with Dudayev. He only let his captive go after the programme agreed to apologise; oow he wanted to see if it would keep the promise. It did. "Excellent," he said, quietly.

It was a small triumph. Mr Makhayev dreams of bigger victories: winning the right for a referendum on independence and the departure of the Russians. He insists that there would be no massive reprisals. and denies President Yeltsin's claim that an all-out withdrawal would lead to civil war.

The Muslim courts will deal with 10 or 15 traitors who invited the Russian troops here, but we will find a common language. We are all Chechens, and all of the same blood." What of the hundreds of Chechens, the lo-cal Ministry of Interior police, who fought against them in Grozny? "We will forgive them." For now, this is fantasy. He

must focus on the war. He says Mr Dudayev's forces, in absolute disarray last summer, are now stronger and more nuhave transport, our people are well rested, and our wounded guys are heing taken care of." They are planning another spectacular assault, "a blockbuster movie", he says.

And, sitting in their village headquarters, he and his men are looking forward to the summer. Allah helps us by sending log at night. There will be green leaves on the trees soon, and they will screen our manbuilding knows, is whether they will live to see the summer.



"He wants his children to have a proper holiday,

even though he won't be there to see it."

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Proof of Serb crimes revealed

The Court

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Tibetan nomads near starvation after hard winter

RAYMOND WHITAKER

Yaks are among the hardiest creatures on earth, but not even these long-haired beasts have been able to withstand the cruellest winter in over a century in the heart of Asia.

Months of drought on the 18,000ft Tibetan plateau, followed by the worst blizzards in living memory and night tem-peratures of 45C, may kill up to a million yaks, cattle and

This is a disaster for 100,000 Tibetan nomads, who are en-tirely dependent on their herds and now face starvation. The Chinese outhorities in Sichuan and Qinghai provinces have used up their relief supplies, and are turning to outside agencies

Serge Depotter, o foreign relief worker who recently visited the worst-affected areas, said several dozen people had died said. "They are as poor as the from cold, and 28,000 more people of Ethiopia."

were suffering from frostbite and snow blindness. Respiratory in-fections, including tuberculosis, have become rife among the mainourished population.

Mr Depotter's organisation. the Belgian branch of Medecins Sans Frontières, has organised a truck convoy to bring 1,2001 tonnes of barley, medicines and other supplies to the starving nomads. "It is no longer possible to try to save the livestock, only the people," said an offi-cial of the Qinghai provincial government. But the herdsmen are entirely dependent on their animals for food, fuel, clothing and hides for their tents.

Sean Mayne Smith, a pho-tographer who returned this week from the disaster area. said the Chinese authorities had had to dissuade the nomads from giving relief food to their animals, "Without their berds, these people have nothing," he



Taiwan ponders price of democracy

These days, Ms Fang runs a private institute, the Forest of Mercy foundation, to docu-

ment the pro-democracy move-

ment and Taiwanese culture: Mr

The institute is in Han coun-

ty, two hours' drive from Taipei,

one of the most solid areas of

DPP support. People in Ilan in-

sist reform still has some way to

go. "Lee is the worst president,

because he allows corruption

and the government relation-

If things had been different, Liang-chun and Ting-chun would have been old enough to vote in Taiwan's first democra-tic presidential election today.

Instead, their parents, political activists, will this morning reflect on the price their family has paid in the Taiwanese people's struggle for reform: On 28 February 1980 e man entered their guarded home in Taipei and stabbed to death the six-year-old twin girls and their grandmother. When their elder sister returned from school she too was attacked and only just

The slaughter was probably the worst atrocity of Taiwan's recent political history. Neither the date of the murders nor the victims was a matter of chance. The day marked the anniversary of the 1947 incident which led to the killing of up to 20,000 Tai-wanese by ruling Kuomintang (KMT) nationalists determined to crush calls for reform-

The two girls were daughters of Lin Yi-hsiung, a lawyer and

As polling begins under the glare of mainland China, activists recall the sacrifices they made, writes Teresa Poole in Taipei

group of pro-democracy ac-tivists, who had appeared in court that morning on sedition charges. The murdered old lady was Mr Lin's mother: No one has been punished and, despite the improved political environment, no official inquiry has been held into the deaths.

Mr Lin's wife, Fang Su-min, still asks: "After my bushand's arrest, my house was under 24 hour surveillance. The guards knew if anybody came to my home. How could a nurderer have entered my home, and killed three people?" It is pre-sumed a pro-KMT faction probably carried out the killings as a warning to the opposition.
As Peng Ming-min, the can-

didate from the opposition Democratic Progressive Party (DPP) reminded everyone this week. Taiwan's evolution to a member of the Formosa bloodless as is sometimes por marches throughout Taiwan.

trayed. For decades the KMT ruthlessly wiped out opposi-tion. "We worked so hard to get this election," said Anionio

Chiang, an editor of political magazines: After the murders, Mr Lin spent four-and-a-half

Lin concentrates on opposing Taiwan's planned fourth nuyears in jail, and a decade in ex- clear power station. China and US delay defence visits

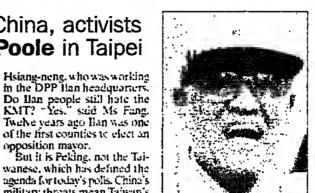
Pelone -- China yesterday underscored its anger at US: military support for Taiwan, announcing a further delay of its defence minister's long-planned visit to the US; because "the present climate is not favourable". In Washington: however, the Defence Secretary. William Perry, said he had postponed next month's trip.

ile. In the 16 years following that terrible afternoon, Taiwan's political climete has changed greatly. Martial law ended in 1987 and opposition parties le-galised in 1989. Last night, in a display of democracy, all four democracy has not been as candidates held rallies and

opposition mayor. But it is Peking, not the Toiwanese, which has defined the agenda for today's polls. China's

military threats mean Taiwan's international status is the crucial issue. Most Taiwanese will tell you the same thing in practice Taiwan is an independent state, has been under separate government for mure than a century, and reunification with the Communist People's Republic is unthinkable. Where they disagree is in how to pre-serve such a fragile status quo and how aggressively to deal with an increasingly belligerent mainland.

Dr Peng of the DPP said the ship with the mafia," said You . One China fiction should be



Mr Lee: Accused of graft

abandoned in favour of accepting Taiwan's de lacto independence; but he would not declare independence unless China invaded. The incumbent KMT President, Mr Lee Tenghui, denies Peking's allegation that he secretly favours inde-pendence but he says China is a cultural entity, and reunification could only occur after the mainland achieves democracy.

That leaves the man most conciliatory towards Peking. dirty? I think maybe because we lack trust between people."

Somali villagers rescue relief workers

KARIN DAVIES Associated Press Writer

Nairobi - Five foreign aid workers taken hostage at a Somali airport by a disgrantled for-mer United Nations contractor were rescued by armed villagers who fired on the kidnappers. Unicef said yesterday.

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A young boy was shot in the head by one of the kidnappers during the confrontation and was in a coma, said Pierce Gerely, the agency's Somalia representative, who is based in Nairobi.

Villagers became suspicious of the minivan and pick-up truck loaded with five foreigners and 10 gunmen as it passed through Farsaley, about 75 miles south-west of Mogadishu. at dusk on Thursday.

They realised this was a

kidnapping in progress," said Mr Gerety, "They shot at the kidnappers to stop them. One bullet went into the minivan.

The kidnappers shot a kid." The heavily armed villagers surrounded the van, and forced the gunmen to pass their weapons out the windows of their vehicles, Mr Gerety said, quoting one of the hostages. Po-lice took the kidnappers into custody, he added.

Lin Yang-gang, a former KMT stalwart. Even he is hardly a tra-

ditional One China enthusiast:

unification should not have a timetable, he said last week, and

might only take the form of a "Chinese" commonwealth"

loosely modelled on the Euro-

"Democracy will defeat

guns." Mr Lee said yesterday.

Mr Lee, the presumed winner. has set himself a goal of at least 50 per cent of the vote, which

Western diolomats fervenily

hope he achieves. If he does not.

Peking could assume its crude

scare tactics have paid off, say

In Ilan, Ms Fang's family are

firm DPP supporters. Given the family tragedy, does she ever wish her husband had not been involved in politics? "Of course, sometimes 1 still think like that," she said, "But when I see

him handing out leaflets in the street, helping people so hap-

pily. I cannot say anything. I ask, Why are politics in Taiwan so

some analysts.

The village is in an area served by foreign relief agencies. The hostages spent the night in the UN minivan, and yesterday drove back to Mo-gadishu, the Somali capital.

The Unicef workers included a British security officer. William Condie, as well as a Nepalesc, a Sudanese, an Indian, and the American head of the World Health Organisation in Somalia.

The five were taken by an armed gang led by a Somali who formerly rented a vehicle to Unicef, and was unhappy his contract had ended.

International aid organisations employed hundreds of Somalis in the early 1990s until the UN mission to Somalia pulled out a year ago. Armed groups have regularly taken hostages to exact what they feel are arrears in wages.

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Brum marches to a happier tune

of the pleasantest squares in Europe, dominated by an impres gold-leaf-encrusted Hôtel de Ville. There is a large waterfallfountain with a recumbent postmodern statue of a huge, female bather. There is a flower stall on the corner, which is reminiscent of Amsterdam. There is a scattering of the ornate advertising pillars which are typical of French cities. There are tourists. There are pigeons.

Unfortunately, it is pouring with rain. But then what do you expect? This is Birmingham and it is March.

Victoria Square, created by removing part of New Street, is the epicentre of Birmingham's efforts over the past 12 years to re-invent itself - largely thanks to cash from the European Union. Nearby there is a pleasant mall with an atrium, the International Conference Centre, a classical concert hall and a canal-side park. Birmingham always had more canals than Venice but you were never previously advised to visit them.

Beyond - not far beyond, admittedly-you come back to the tangle of urban throughways and high-rises which squeezed the life out of Birmingham in the late 1960s. It is as if the city had set out to become Detroit, changed its mind and decided. to become Lille or Liege or Turin instead. "It was absolutely a con-

scious decision, absolutely, to go for the European look," said Tony Bradley, Director of Business Policy at the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce and Industry. "The City council wanted it to look European and they were quite right because Europe is our future. Birmingham is at the ceotre of one of the great city-regions of Europe and that is the way we feel Europe will go. It will increasingly be dominated, oot by nations, but by city-regions,"

This article comes at the end of a series in which the Independent attempts to look into the future of the European Union. oot from the standard vantage point of national capitals, but from the perspective of its regions: Bordeaux, Bologna, Bayaria and oow Birmingham. In Turin next Friday EU heads of government will launch a ecutive of Birmingham City year-long Inter-governmental 2000, a pressure group seeking



Looking to the future: Birmingham's Victoria Square rivals the more famous city scenes found across the Channel

utation as an international ser-

vices centre. He says the West Midlands was traditionally an

inward-looking region, a met-al-bashing manufacturer of

bardware for Britain and its Em-

pire, with little direct contact

with the contineot. "We have

emerged from the 80s with

Conference (IGC) which will try to bolster the city's growing repto plot the shape of the European Union for the next century. The received view is that the negotiations will once again see the pro-Europe continental member states and Ireland teaming up against Britain, the perpetually reloctant European.

This may well be so. But our forays into the regions suggest that public opinion - at least, in-formed business and political opinion - no longer fits either of these traditional moulds. On the continent, post-Maastricht, there is a growing questioning of the purpose and direction; in Britain, outside the fetid atmosphere of Westminster, there remains great scepticism and uncertainty but also a conviction that Britain's place is in Europe.

nuch of that industry gone. But that which remains - and the fi-nancial service industries which have grown up here - are absolutely committed to the idea of Birmingham, and Britain, as part of European single market.

There is great suspicion about the idea of more European political integration. Most people can't see the need for it. On the single currency, business here is very divided. But there is also, I think, great unease that the British Government seems always to place Britain oo the edge of the debate."

In Victoria Square, I tried for a wider cross-section of Birmingham opinion. In 20 min-utes, before the rain destroyed my ootebook, I spoke to a dozen or so passers-by. Not one of them was aware of next week's conference; only one persoo was vaguely aware that the EU had invested £200m in the revival of their city since 1984: all spoke with varying degrees of indifference - but on especial bostility - of the future of the European Union. Of all the people I met more

formally in Birmingham, the one who best summed up the ambivalence of British 211itudes was Christopher Spall, senior partner of Barker. Brettell and Duncan, a large firm of patent and trade-mark attorneys. Mr Spall says he has "very strong views" about the EU. "1 am strongly against any further bureaucracy and any further political integration. I am strongly against the single curreocy ... I saw Chancellor Kohl on the TV the other night, raviog on

Mr Spall grinned impishly. On the other hand, he points out that his firm - once entire-ly dependent on winning UK natents for local manufacturing businesses - now depends for its survival on British membership of the EU. One third of its how to live over there."

about federalism. Honestly.

all he needed was the small

work is European; acting for British companies who want a European paient, but also for American and Japanese companies who want both British and European patents.

"When they opened the Eu-ropean Patents office in Munich, I teared the worst, he said. "I thought, here we go, European rules and German officialdoni. But it hasn't been like that, it works very sensitively and efficiently. We get on with the Germans very well."

Municipally, Birmingham takes its new-found Europeanness very seriously. It was one of the five founding members of Euro-city, an urban pressure group which now unites more than 60 EU cities. The city council was one of the first in Britain to have its own representation in Brussels. Birming ham has worked aggressively and intelligently to win EU regional fund grants. "Brusseis was ready to entertain, and actively support, regeneration projects... while they were still out of favour in Whitehall," said Gareth Williams, the city's director of European and International Affairs.

But Mr Williams says that Birmingham has found Europe just as invigorating as a habit of mind. "Within Britain, Birmingham will always he Birmingham, the second-city. In Europe, we take our place quite naturally in the first tier of hig. provincial cities. There is a lot we can learn; there is a lot we can teach. It gives us ... a network, and a network which doesn't go through London."
Habit of mind is an important

European issue. Mr Williams believes Europe is also a generational issue; younger generations are, he says, much more open to the idea of a European Britain, Maybe,

On the train to Birmingham, met a young Brummie in his 20's, a Sun reader, a van driver out of work because he had lost his driving licence. He cared nothing about European poli-tics. But he was on his way home from Holland, where he had been to register for work.

"I've been there before." he said. "I'm going to get work in the bulh harvest, mate. There' nothing happening in Birmingham. There's nothing happening in this country. They know

French back Pacific test ban

Paris - France, the US and Britain will sign the Treaty of Rarotonga, on Monday, turning the South Pacific into a nuclear-free zone, the French Foreign Ministry said yesterday.

The three western powers will sign three protocols of the treaty. banning nuclear weapons and nuclear tests in the region, where France completed a bitterly-disputed series of six nuclear weapons tests in January.

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Palestinian hijacker recaptured

Rome - A Palestinian who escaped from jail in Italy where he was serving a sentence for hijacking the Achille Lauro cruise liner in 1985 has been recaptured in southern Spain. The Italian Instice Ministry said Maguid al-Molqi had been arrested by Italian detectives with Spanish police help in Silva, southern Spain. The US had offered a \$2m reward for his capture.

Ban on British historian upheld

Munich — A court yesterday upheld an order harring controversial British historian David Irving from entering Germany because of his views on the Holocaust. Mr Irving had appealed against the 1993 decision, imposed after Munich neo-Nazis invited him to appear at an event to mark the 55th anniversary of the Nazis' Kristallnacht pogroms against the Jews. Reuter

Mugabe warns party

Harare - Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe ordered his ruling party to address voters' grievances, just days after heing re-elected in a one-man presidential race boycotted by the majority of voters. "I believe now is the time to analyse the people's grievances as they expressed them in both their urban and rural setting, and work out urgent and effective ways of addressing them." he told a meeting of his ZANU-PF party.

Leonardo renovation attacked

Paris - A French art historian claimed Italian restorers had stripped away so much from Leouardo da Vinci's "Last Supper" that they turned his masterpiece into a ghostly image more like a modern painting. Jacques Franck said the team restoring the mural in a Milan church had stripped away all the repaints added since Leonardo painted the work, taking no account of their crucial role in preserving the original.

Athens airport security condemned

Washington - The US said Athens' Hellenikon International Airport did not fully meet internationally established security standards. Chiefly at issue are checkpoint screening procedures, an official said. Standards are set by the International Civil Aviation Organisation.

Queen to visit Holocaust memorial

London - The Queen will visit Umschlagplatz in Warsaw, where Jews began their journeys to Treblinka concentration camp, during her trip to Poland next week, Buckingham Palace said yesterday. The announcement is a response to complaints from Jewish leaders that she would not he visiting Auschwitz. The Queen flies to Warsaw on Monday.

Resistance hero dies

Paris — Claude Bourder, a Resistance hero who survived a Nazi death camp to become an outspoken left-wing journalist criticising racism and French colonial policies, has died. He was 86. In his final years he defended the Bosnian Muslim government and the Palestinian cause

When a spade is not a spade Bucharest - An eccentric Transylvanian mayor has come up

with an idea to stop city workers leaning on their shovels instead of working, by making the handles too short. "The handles should be shortened so that they can no looger be used as a leaning point by those who meditate while at work," said Gheorghe

Police end church protest

David Maxwell is Chief Ex-

MARY DEJEVSKY

French police and riot troops mounted a joint operation at dawn yesterday to evict more than 400 Africans, including about 100 children, from a central Paris church where they had taken refuge. They had occupied the church since Monday in a joint action supported by immigrants and equal rights groups to demand the legalisa-

tion of their status in France. . Police staked out the church from 2am, then launched their raid shortly before six, smashing down the church door. . .

The police said the operation had been carried out "humanely and with every effort 10

avoid violence". While the majority had agreed to leave the church peacefully, more than 70 refused to go. By 9am they were still in the church precincts, sitting defiantly on the cold, wet ground: Surrounded by dozens of police in full riot gear, they were a bizarrely colourful sight amid the rush of morning com-

mnters and shoppers.

A crowd of a hundred or so. gathered around the police barriers, some telling the protesters to go back where they had

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come from others shouting their support. Fierce arguments broke out. "I'm Jewish", said one woman, "and we were like them once. Let them stay. The church of St Ambroise is on the edge of the Marais, a traditionally Jewish section of

the city.

The Africans, mostly from Mali, Mauritius and Senegal, offered eloquent testimony to the confusion of French immigration laws, which sometimes eave spouses and children with different nationality status. By yesterday evening, the protesters had moved on, occupying a nearby gymnasium.

Turkey adopts festival

HUGH POPE

The new Turkish government of Prime Minister Mesul Yilmaz this week launched a bloodless takeover of Nevruz, the Kurdish spring equinox festival, an occasion the Kurds had made into a day of protest against Turkish oppression from the late

A new jerry-built platform of Turkey's state ideology turned Nevruz into a re-discovered spring festival of all the 150 million people of the Turkie world.

One of the more bizarre results is that the spring festival is now officially encouraged in Turkey while liberal Germany bas banned it because celebrations bad turned into violent demonstrations by the Kurdish Workers' Party (PKK).

In Turkey, however, the PKK banned and, despite new PKK threats against Turkish tourism and cities, it is militarily weakened after II years of fighting in which 18,500 people have died. The establishment is

now debating what to do next. Faint hints from Mr Yilmaz about allowing Kurdish broadcasting, education and free cultural expression have found few echoes. But the meaninglessness of the old state nationalism was underlined by the way the establishment was able to adopt the new Turkishstyle Nevruz without missing a

In the capital, Ankara, Presideot Suleyman Demirel fired a pistol to start the First laternational Nevruz quartermarathon. The Turkish national lottery had a special Nevruz draw. Pamphlets arguing the long "Turkish" tradition of Nevruz were posted to all and sundry.

Meanwhile, down in the Kurdish south-east, Kurds who used to use the day to defy the Turkish authorities - 100 people were killed in Nevruz clashes in 1992 - were cocouraged to gather to celebrate in stadiums. Soldiers on checkpoints were ordered to greet wayfarers with the greeting "Happy Nevruz".

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Polls point to revival of fortune for Peres

PATRICK COCKBURN Jerusalem

Four suicide hombs in the past month hadly damaged his political standing, but Shimon Peres still stands a good chance of remaining Israel's Prime Minister in the May election, in the latest Gallup poll he has 48 per cent support, compared to 43 per cent for Binyamin Ne-

It is nothing like the lead Mr Peres enjoyed before the first hombs exploded on 25 February, but it is much better than his Labour Party feared.

His fortunes have revived primarily because there have been no more bombs and he has received heavy support from the US, most clearly expressed at the "summit of peacemakers" - prompted by the suicide

lanyahu, the leader of the right. attacks - in Sharm el-Sheikh.

A second poll, by the Dahaf minister David Levy, to Centre, shows Mr Peres has a withdraw their candidacies. lead of just 2 per cent, underlining that both Labour and the Likud opposition have everything to fight for during the two-month-long campaign. The Prime Minister has the advantage of incumbency, but Mr Netanyahu has improved his

chances by persuading two right-wing rivals. General Rateil Eilan and the former foreign

Both Mr Peres and Mr Netanyahu have stepped towards the political centre in recent weeks in order to win undecided votes. The Prime Minister speaks well of demolishing Palestinian houses, deporta-tions and scaling off the occupied territorics. The Likud leader has good things to say of the Oslo accords with the Pales-

tinians, which his party platform win almost all the ultra-opposes. Mr Netanyahu has orthodox Jewish vote and the still not wholly shaken off the damage done to him by the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin in November. But many Israeli voters always distrusted Mr Peres on security and this dis-

the suicide bombs. Israeli polis can be deceptive because the electorate is not uniform. Mr Netanyahn will

trust has increased because of

Prime Minister will be supported by all Israeli Arabs.

To win the battle to be Prime Minister - who is to be directly elected for the first time - the right must have a 10 per cent lead among Jewish voters but, at present, is ahead by just 4 per

The Labour tactics are becoming clear: play up separation

objective of the peace process and emphasise that "Hamas wants Likud to win. Likud on the other hand will argue that

The fighting in Lebanon, which has preoccupied the Israeli media in recent days, is unlikely to win or lose many votes but commentators repeatedly

duced more, not fewer, Israeli

of Israelis and Palestinians as an stress that another Hamas bomb in Israel could finally destroy Labour's chances. It is also true that the radical right has not changed its views, although it has been more discreet since Mr Rabin was murdered. Mr Peres says that the Shin Bet security agency has told him that there are thousands willing to kill him in order to prevent Israel withdrawal from the West

UN suspects Iraq of hiding Scud missiles

CHRISTOPHER BELLAMY Defence Correspondent

Iraq may be hiding up to 16 modified Scud ballistic missiles and their chemical and biological warheads, by shuttling them between military bases, UN investigators now believe.

A year ago, the UN said it had evidence Iraq had de-stroved all its remaining Scud missiles. But the UN has changed its view abruptly, following evidence from a senior Iraqi defector that the Iraqis had built some Souds themselves rather than relying exclusively on imports from the former So-

Rolf Ekcus, who chairs the UN Special commission on Iraq told a US Senate Sub-Committee that the UN's new concern about missiles helped tors. On five occasions last week they refused to let UN inspectors into government buildings suspected of concealing launchers or documents related to the existence of the mis-

Mr Ekeus's team believes

are probably being concealed on trucks and moved between military sites in order to evade the UN inspectors. The chemical and biological warheads could be kept separately. UN inspectors would need to be delayed for an hour or so to allow the trucks carrying the missiles to

li was not until last August that the UN realised Iraq might be able to build the missiles from scratch, following testimony from Saddam Hussein's fugitive brother-in-law. Hussein Kamel Hassan, the former minister for military industry, who had defected to Jordan but was killed on Saddam's orders after returning last month.

The missiles which the UN suspects the Iraqis are hiding are al-Husseins, an improvement on the original Soud, with explain the Iraqi authorities' re- a smaller warhead (300kg incent obstruction of UN inspec-stead of 800kg) and a maximum range of 650 km (400 miles). They can carry chemical or bi-ological warheads and, fired from Iraq could hit all of Israel. Rivadh in Saudi Arabia and Tehran, Iraq is believed to have produced at least 50 warheads filled with nerve gas and 25



The space shuttle Atlantis blasting off from Cape Canaveral, in Florida, yesterday. The shuttle later developed a leak causing a loss of hydraulic pressure which could force Nasa to shorten the shuttle's 10-day mission. But it is not thought that the principal aim of the mi the Russian space station Mir and transferring the astronaut Shannon Lucid - due to take place today, is under threat

Zulu gunmen kill 11 in attack on ANC

Durban (Reuter) — Gunmen massacred 11 people, one a baby, in a political attack in South Africa's Zulu heartland, hours after President Nelson Mandela visited the province.

Police said the child died after its mother was shot dead by up to seven gunmen who Thursday night, killing another six women and three men. Most were shot at close range.

Police said the attack on the rural settlement, near the KwaZulu-Natal town of Donnybrook was politically-moti-vated, as all those killed were ANC supporters.

The massacre took place after Mr Mandela told meetings in the KwaZulu-Natal province, which is ruled by his ANC's main rival, the Zulu-based Inkatha Freedom Party, that blacks were still slaughtering one another there.

The provincial police commissioner, Chris Serfontem, said police were offering a re-ward of 250,000 rand (£42,000). Mr Mandela sald at one of his

meetings on Thursday that there was peace between "Indians, Coloureds [people of mixed race] and whites but it is Africans who are slanghtering each other". "Many people in the rest of

our country still regard us as being backward. What else can they say when you are behaving like animals, when you slaughter each other simply because you want to remain in power?"

from the watchdog Human Rights Committee, said that the attack could be linked to the launch of the ANC's campaign for the 29 May local elections in the province.
"The leaders of the two po-

htical parties have just had a pre-imbizo [gathering of the Zulu nation] meeting to discuss peace, but this attack shows just how far away peace really is."

Holy rebels strike terror into Uganda's villages

DAVIO ORR

people of Lamogi, in northern Uganda, are simply too afraid

More than 200 civilians, recent weeks. In one incident drove towards the capital. The inhabitants of Lamogi

There are days when the are afraid to practise their traditional religion for fear of execution by the LRA. a Other atrocities include cutting to work the fields. Marauding Christian fundamentalist gueroverthrow the government of rule the country according to the Ten Commandments.

Many peasants have stopped rebels and Ugandan army going to the fields on Friday, soldiers have been killed in since the LRA, which is backed by the Islamic regime in neigh-

outlaws the keeping of white animals and swine. Many are afraid to ride bicycles, which are also prohibited by the rebels who hack off the feet of cyclists. off ears and lips.

to be at least 2,000 strong, has such a swathe through the President Yowerl Museveni and its origins in the Holy Spirit Movement of a religious fanatic, Alice Lakwena, whose hymnsinging columns advanced to within 80 miles of Kampala before being defeated by

government forces in 1987. this month, all but six of 30 bouring Sudan, has decreed passengers on a minibus were that it is a day of rest.

Nor do they keep white father, the movement was takambushed the vehicle as it chickens, or pigs. The LRA en over by her cousin Joseph

Kony (pronounced coin), a catechist and herbalist, who renamed it the Lord's Resistance Army in 1993. "Initially, the rebels seemed

to have some military purpose, mid-February. Several units says Oyat Molondo, a farmer just behaving like bandits. We'd in the region are being palike to see the government trolled by the Uganda People's negotiate with them, as it Defence Force, a militia set up doesn't seem they can be to protect them from the LRA. defeated militarily.

faltered over the refusal of Mr Kony to lay down arms. Now Mr
Museveni says he can "finish off" the rebels by mid-April. He has vowed Mr Kony will be dead "within the next few days".

Cessor of Mr Museveni Museveni National Resistance Army, which overthrew the regime of Milton Obote a decade ago. Long regarded as poorly equipped and disorganised, it

the north since about 500 rebels crossed over the border from bases in southern Sudan in have been moved northwards

Uganda is modernising its Attempts at peace talks have 40,000-strong army, the suc-dan villages as porters, the ditered over the refusal of Mr cessor of Mr Museveni's rebels have proved highly mo-

The Ugandan army has has recently received machinery beefed up its troop strength in and weaponry from the United The government claims its

that Mr Kony has been wounded. But the LRA has repeatedly the army is unprepared. Using children kidnapped from Uganbile. They have also increased their firepower since their ear-ly days, when witcheraft was the main weapon; rebel prisoners in

Gulu describe how they would

nut oil as protection against were supposed to turn into grenades when thrown at the

The rebels have appeared and carrying heavy weapons. which Uganda says are provided by Sndan. Anti-tank rocket launchers, machine guns and anti-personnel mines captured by the Ugandan army suggest Khartoum backs the insurgency. While the LRA is unlikely to

overthrow Mr Museveni, it may severely disrupt presidential and parliamentary elections planned for May and June.

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\$25,000 or more	7.20	5.40	£50,000 - £99,999	4.30	3.60	
£10,000 - £24,999	6.80	5.10	£25.000 - £49.999	4.70	3.53	
£2.500 - £9,999	6.00	4,50	£10,000 - £24,999	3.85	189	
£50 - £7,499	0.50	0.38	£7.500 - £9.999	3.45	2.59	
POSTAL 120 !Month	le:		E50 - £2,499		0.38	
Antes unchanged.	•••		530 - 52,499	0_50	0.38	
425,000 pc more	6.97	5.23	POSTAL 71 (Monthly	7)		
\$10,000 - \$24,999	5.60	4.95	£100,000 or more	4.75	3.56	
12 500 - [9,999	5.84	4.39	£50,000 - £99,999	4.70	3.53	
150 - 52,499	0.50	0.38	(25,000 - £49,999	4.60	3.45	
POSTAL 90 (Annual)			£10,000 - £24,999	3.78	2.84	
±50,000 or more	5.70	4.28	(2,500 - £9,999			
525,000 - 549,999	5.60	4.20		3.40	2.55	
£10,000 - £24,999	5.30	3.98	£50 - £2,499	0.50	0.38	
<u> </u>	4,30	3.23	POSTAL ACCOUNT	's (Annual)		
130 - (2,490	0.50	0.38	Can now be operated through	, -		
		0.20	£50,000 or more	4.60	3.45	
POSTAL 90 Monthly			£25,000 - £49,999	4.45	3.34	
150,000 or more	5.56	4.17				
(25,000 - 549,999	5.46	4.10	£20,000 - £24,999	4.35	3.26	
t 10,000 - £24,999	5.18	3.89	£10,000 - £19,999	3.40	2.55	
<u>(1</u> ,500 - <u>(</u> 9,999	0.50	3.17	C2,000 - £9,999	3.15	2.36	
£10 - £2,499	0.30	0.38	£500 - £1,999	2.60	1.95	
POSTAL 60 (Annual)			£50 - £499	0.50	0.38	
(100,000 or more	5.10	3.83	POSTAL ACCOUNT	7 (Moushle)		
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.25,000 - £49,999	4.80	3.60				
(10,000 - 424,999	4.30	3.23	£50,000 or more	4.51	3.38	
£1,500 - £9,999	3.80	2.85	(25,000 - £44,999	4.36	3.27	
250 - 22.499	0.50	0.38	£20,000 - £24,999	4.27	3.20	
POSTAL 60 : Monthly!	!		£10,000 - £19,999	3.35	1.51	
100.000 or more	4,95	3.74	£5,000 • £9,999	3.10	2.33	
(50,000 - £99,999	4.84	3.63	C50 · £4,999	0.50	0.38	
25,000 - 149,999	4.70	3.53	OO DIDECT	-10-4		
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TWOOD of more	4.90	3.68	520,000 - 524,999	4.35	3.26	
439,000 or more (25,000 - £49,999	4.75	3.56	£10,000 - £19,999	3.40	2.55	
110,000 - 624,999	3.95	196	£2,000 · £9,999	3.15	236	
<u> </u>	3.50	163	£500 - £1,999	160	1.95	
50 - 62.499 	0.50	0.38	£50 · £499			
270 · 22/477	(1.30	4.39	C30 · E479	0.50	0.38	

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A thousand people smoking cigars in an unventilated underground ballroom might not be everyone's idea of how to raise funds for cancer research. But this is America.

The venue was a power hotel in downtown Washington. The occasion, billed as "The Big Smoke", was a celebration of opulence masquerading as a charity convention for cigar connoisseurs. The spectacle was the caricature of Washington imagined by Pat Buchanan's pitchfork-wielding class war-

Fat cats in double-breasted suits - corporate lobbyists. lawyers, PR consultants and politicians - quaffed cognacs, picked at petits fours, bantered ahout weighty affairs of state, puffing - heads held high at jaunty angles - on five-and-a-half-inch, hand-rolled Dominicao Mootecristos. But they weren't there just to be seen. They had paid \$150 a head to get in and, this being the US. they had to have something to do. So they shopped.

The room, carpeted and chandeliered, had been converted into a high-fashion market place. Rows of elegantly draped stalls offered a variety of extravagant accessories, from gold watches to leather luggage. to champagnes and all shapes and sizes of cigar. Served up as part of the entertainment were a couple of dozen women, trophy babes out of a Mercedes Benz commercial. They posed, wickedly elegant, io stiletto heels, sucking cigarillos, flicking ash off ample decolletages.

. Cigars have become such a fashion craze in America in the last couple of years that demand, according to frustrated, salesmen, is far outstripping

250.2 (1.17)

ge, ⁽¹ , ×

martin in the second

ten a third and ill mours are cared

W MEDIC TABLE

for Throught

The world's most health-conscious nation has taken to cigars, writes John Carlin in Washington

supply. Anybody who wants to be anybody these days must be vour mouth, like fine wine and seen smoking a cigar. New cigar clubs open up and down the US every day. Cigar bars in Washington, New York, Chica-go and Miami have waiters on hand specially trained to advise customers on what kind of cig-ar goes best with what meal.

good food,"

Mr Shanken is the idul of the American cigar industry. Oscar Boruchin, a Cuban-American distributor from Miami, said that without Cigar Aficionado the boom would never have happened. When the magazine

'It goes with the Ferrari, the Rolex, the beautiful women'

tiful women.

Ferraris, Rolexes and beau-

the images that adorn the ad-

convey a sense that cigar-smok-

ing is what the rich and famous

do (Jack Nicholson appeared

(The general rule is a light cigar with fish, strong with red

The Big Smoke has already acquired the status of a tradition. The inaugural bash was held in New York three years ago. Since then, other big cities have followed suit. The Washington bash was the first of nine events planned this year by the sponsor, Cigar Aficionado

magazine.
The magazine's publisher,
Marvin Shanken, said that when he out out his first issue in the Autumn of 1992 he had hoped for a circulation of maybe 20,000. "It was a labour of love. I expected to lose money. And now look: for our latest issue we've dooe a print ruo of 350,000." How did he account for his success, for this sudden fascination with cigars? "Simple," Mr Shanken said. "It's enjoyable. It turns them on, It's a status symbol. Cigars convey an image of tradition, wealth, sophistication, the good life. A

cigars with a sensual mystique. Thus the most recent issue leatures the results of 100 blind cigar tastings. One cigar has "a rich, earthy [flavour] with a solid core of nuts and spices and a very smooth balance"; another is "complex and medium-bodico", possessing "hints of chocolate" and "flavours of dried orange peel"; yet another is "toasty" with

"some leather and floral notes". Lost among these rhapsodies is any sense that cigar-smoking might speed one towards an ear ly death. Mr Boruchin and other cigar merchants at the Washington fair were adamant that the health risks were minimal. "Unlike cigarettes, cigars are not habit-forming: you don't inhale; you smoke them in came out, suddenly eigar smok-ing came out of the closet. moderation." Maybe, but all those of us who attended the Marvin Shanken legitimised it. Big Smoke might make an in-The image changed. A cigar means success. It goes with teresting case study on the effects of passive smoking. the Ferrari, the Rolex, the beau-

So how to reconcile Americans' obsessiveness with health with the cult of the cigar? Untiful women are coincidentally til a cancer cure is found, Big Smoking promises to be as luvertisemeots in Cigar Aficiona-do. The articles contrive both to crative for the medical profession as for the cigar industry. A doctor present as a nonsmoking observer at the cigarfest, asked for his opinion, cheroot in hand on one of last replied with a smile and a shrug: "It's good for business."

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gather to watch the undulating serpent of light that appears on the north (left) side of the Mayan pyramid of El Castillo, in Chiche Itza, Yucatan, Mexico. The phenomenon marks the spring equinox and is held to represent the Photograph: Heriberto Rodriguez/Reuter Mayan god Kukulkam ('Feathered Serpent') descending to earth

Revised Interest Rates For Accounts No Longer Open To New Investors.

Amended Investment and Savings Rates: Effective from 23rd March, 1996.

investment	Gross*	CAR**	Net1							
	Instant Acc	ess Account								
£50,000+ `	3.60%		2.88%							
£20,000	3.35%		2.68%							
£10,000	3.20%		2.56%							
£5,000	2.90%		2.32%							
£2,500	2.70%		2.16%							
£500 ·	2.50%	·	2.00%							
£250	0.35%		0.28%							
£100	0.10%		0.08%							
Half Yearly Instant Access Account										
£50,000+ ·	3.57%	3.60%	- 2.86%							
£20,000	3.35%	3.35%	2.66%							
£10,000	3.17%	3.20%	2.54%							
£5,000	2.78%	2.90%	- 2.30%							
£2,500	2.68% 2.70%	. 2.14%								
£500	2.48%	2.50%	1.98%							
£250	0.35%	0.35%	0.28%							
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£50,000+	3.54%	3.60%	2.83%							
£20,000 3.30%		3.35%	2.64%							
£10,000 3.35%		3.20%	2.52%							
£5,000	2.86%	2.90%	2.29%							
£2,500	2.67%	2.70%	2.14%							
£1,000	2.47%	2.50%	1.98%							
	Index Linke	Account.								
	1st Issue (Quarterly								
£1,000	6.20%	6.35%	4.95%							
	2nd Issu	e Yearly								
£1,000	6.20%	· -	4.96%							
	2nd Issue	Monthly	<u>.</u>							
£1,000	6.03%	6.20%	4.82%							
	3rd Issue	e Yearly	,							
£1,000	5.85%		4:68%							
	3rd Issue	Monthly								
£1,000	5.70%	5.85%	2.54%							
	4th Issu	e Yearly								
£1,000	5:20%	_	4.16%							
•	4th Issue	Monthly .								
£1,000	5.08%	5.20%	4.06%							

interest payments remain in the account. 1Assuming rate of income tax at 20% (applicable from 6th April, 1996). For interest payable (and accounts closed) prior to the 6th April, 1996 tax will be deducted at-25%. Interest will be payable not of the applicable rate of income tax (which may be reclaimed by non-taxpayers) or gross, subject to the required registration. CAR and net rates are illustrative only and have been rounded to two decimal places. Rates may vary but are correct at the time of going to press. FOR INFORMATION. Interest rates on some other accounts have also changed from the same date. Details of interest rates paid on other accounts are available from any Britannia branch. You may be unsure as to whether your existing account is the best one for you. If so, please call into your local branch

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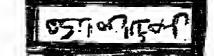
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Rob Will, **CJD Surveillance** Unit

"My opinion has evolved enormously in two to three weeks"



John Pattison. **BSE** advisory committee

'It could be tens of thousands of cases and cumulatively it could be hundreds of thousands'



Kenneth Calman, **Chief Medical** Officer

Told Dorrell the grim news before going off to be knighted by the Oueen

A discovery by a Scots doctor three weeks ago has set off one of the worst health crises this country has faced. An Independent investigation reveals how the nation's BSE nightmare came true

Beefgate

This is the week a conscientious Calvin-ist Scots doctor destroyed the British

heef industry.

Dr Roh Will has made the scientific study of Creuztfeldt-Jakob Disease (CID) his life's work. Since its inception in 1990, he has headed the Creuttfeldt-Jakob Disease and the Creuttfeldt-Disease and the Creuttfeldt-Disease and t ease surveillance unit. It compiles detailed information oo everyooe in Britain who might have been suffering from CID, to

check for a link with "mad cow disease".

Three weeks ago he believed BSE presented "a remote theoretical risk" to people. Now he has changed his mind: as a result the beef industry faces ruin.

It was in the middle of February that Dr Will began to have suspicions that his earlier judgement was wrong. "It's not a flash of light. You build up evidence and then you reach a critical point where you say
'This is convincing. My opinion has
evolved enormously in the past two to three. weeks," he explained.

On 8 December last year, in a long article in this newspaper, he wrote: "I do not believe it is reasonable to conclude that there is a significant risk from eating beef". This weekend he reflected: "I was unaware when I wrote the article of the 10 new patients with a new form of CJD for which it is only logical to consider a possible link with BSE. The evidence is really that recent."

Some of the patients with this distinctive. aggressive form of CJD are still alive. The majority of those who have died did so in the early months of this year, although there was one early case in 1994. When the cases emerged three things alerted Dr Will and his colleagues at the CID unit at the Western General Hospital in Edinburgh. Pirst, the cases were among relatively young peo-ple; most victims of CID are old. Second, their brain tissue displayed a distinctive disease pattern closer to the damage inflicted on a cow's brain by BSE than the damage normal CJD inflicts on humans. Third, these cases took 13 months to die rather than the

Dr Will's team set about their painstaking analysis. "We need full neuropathological information and genotype analysis. Post-mortems take a long time," Dr Will said. That was not enough, however. To rule out a genetic link or the possibility that: the disease was related to the dead person's the victims were young. But they checked lifestyle, members of the unit travelled the with other cases involving young people country in the early weeks of the year to abroad. They found nothing similar in the

interview still grief-stricken relatives. So it was that after an intense burst of something new. Everyone around the table scientific inquiry in February Dr Will and feared that it was related to BSE. his colleague Dr James Ironside, who had "We were all a bit glum. I mean, it had



A rare mess: the country's £500m beef export industry is at stake, but this is 'one of the most difficult health issues we have ever faced

Spongiform Encephalopathy Advisory Committee on Friday 8 March.
The 13-strong committee normally meets at a weekend, because its members,

the country's leading experts in BSE and CID, have hosy research and clinical schedules. A senior member of the committe recalls that it met in sombre mood. "fromside and Will said that at first they had thought the cases were linked only because pathologies so they had to decide it was

conducted the pathological examinations of a frightening impact. But standing aside the brain tissue, decided they had to present their evidence to the Government's getting the full analysis in such a short time.

They have worked very hard."
It was after this meeting that Whitehall's nightmare began. Professor Sir John Pat-tison, the SEAC chairman, alerted Sir Kenneth Calman, the Chief Medical Officer who tipped off his boss Stephen Dorrell. the Health Secretary. Pattison's team were told to reconvene the following Saturday, I6 March, to draw up recommendations about what should be done.

A committee member remembered that tense meeting: "We did consider requesting the destruction of the entire national herd. We considered the full spectrum of responses, including saying that the measures then in place were sufficient too. But

we felt that there was a need to do more." It also explored the possibility that BSE might have been passed to other farm animals and whether it might be passed from

them to people. On Mooday Calman met Dorrell to tell him the grim news that the preliminary findings had been confirmed: a new strain of CJD had been found and

the most likely explanation was BSE. Dorrell could have pressed the panic button but one of those close to him explained: "He's a pretty cool guy and he reacted coolly. He knows there is a fine line between openness and panic. But he wanted it out in the open as soon as possible.

As a precaution, his press office had ordered the Department of Health's advertising agency. Ogilvy and Mather, to book space for an announcement in the morning newspapers on Thursday, to calm fears. There would also be a help line to stop the public jamming the Government's switch-

On Tuesday, Ogilvy and Mather execu-

tives came into the department to meet the head of the press office, Romilla Christopherson, at one time deputy to Bernard Ingham at Number Teo when Margaret Thatcher was in office. It was the call to Ogily, and Mather that

led to the first leak of the story which appeared in Campaign, the advertising industry trade magazine. Its issue published at the start of the week said the agency had been called in to do an emergency campaign to calm public fears about "mad cow

disease" after a Dorrell announcement. As the Ogilvy and Mather team were closeted with Christopherson, SEAC had reconvened elsewhere in the Health Department's offices in Whitehall. Some of its members were in Paris; an open telephone line was set up for them to participate in the discussion.

By a strange coincidence, Calman was also due to visit Buckingham Palace to be knighted by the Queen. The Chief Med-ical Officer briefed Dorrell in his private office wearing a morning suit before rushing to the Palace. He made it with minutes to spare. The Prime Minister was briefed by Dorrell and Douglas Hogg, the agriculture minister, in the course of the day, They agreed that they had to make a pub-

lie statement the following day.

SEAC's debate went on till midnight.

They finalised their recommendations early on Wednesday morning. The exhausted committee members decided to recommend that carcasses from cattle aged over 30 months should be deboned in specially licensed and supervised plants. that trimmings be kept out of the food chain; and that the use of meat and honemeal from any mammals be banned from feed for any farm animals - a measure to stop BSE spreading to pigs or chickens.

But as the committee was at work, so was the Daily Mirror, where a diligeot journalist had picked up the Campaign story. The Daily Mirror splashed it across its front page on Wednesday morning as Dorrell pre-pared to brief a cubinet meeting called to

disuess election strategy.

Ministers spent an hour disuessing the findings and the planned advertising campaign, which was to carry an assurance from the Chief Medical Officer that he would still eat beef as part of a halanced diet. They ordered it to be dropped. "The ads were killed five minutes before the but-ton was pressed," said an advertising

Dorrell went on to make his fateful statement to the Commons, before going on to address a hastily arranged press conference. He was sombre, almost contrite. But the nightmare is oot over. SEAC had not been able to give him a clear view on whether children could be at higher risk of contracting the new strain. So this weekend the SEAC team will meet again and Dorrell has another statement to make on Monday to the House. It could be one of the worst moments a health secretary has had to face since the Thalidomide scandal.

An SEAC member explained: "One of the senior people we presented the findings to said it's one of the most difficult health issues this country has ever faced. I think we'll probably know in the next six to 12 months: if we don't see too many new cases then it could be all right. When I look at the papers I feel 'My God, we've cost the country a £500m export industry'. I just wish I could crawl into a hole. But we're charged with making the decisions, and so we will.

Jo Brand's week

This week is the 50th anniversary of Mind, the mental health charity, and recent research conducted by Mind itself shows that the number of people recent research conducted by Mind itself shows that the number of people using mental health services is rising fairly rapidly. Mind has made a great contribution to easing the stigma felt by people who have mental health problems. The days are gone when you could pay your money and take a walk round your local asylum to have a look at all the mad people, but attitudes haven't changed that much. The general public still see those with mental health problems as dangerous objects, instead of people.

In my experience, most of those who are ill, even if they have a debilitating illness, have a wonderful logic to what they do. I remember a friend of mine, who was also a psychiatric nurse, telling me about a man she knew who had suffered from chronic schizonhrenia, coming out of

she knew who had suffered from chronic schizophrenia, coming out of bospital and getting a job as a postman. He was a little nervous on his first day but determined to do the job. He picked up his sack of mail, went to the nearest postbox and shoved the whole lot in. He then went home and watched telly. Now that's what I call sensible.

The never-ending saga of poor old Florence Nightingale continues. Not only did none of the soldiers under her care want her to be in Scutari, but it now seems she knocked back * some bromide, which is a drug given to soldiers to curb their sexual appetite. After taking the drug, she reports, she was so tired, she couldn't do anything. Well, at least we know it works. Perhaps we should start doling it out to to men at work and give some women a break from the modern plague of office sexual

Poor old Frank Bruno. I have to confess I did stay up and watch the terrible battering that he got from Mike Tyson last week. All that completely over-the-top build-up for such a quick end. Mr Tyson seems somewhat confused at the moment. He has converted to Islam and yet be sports a buge tattoo of Mao Tsetung on his arm, a man who certainly never supported religion of any kind. Still, all these things pale into insignificance, I suppose, when you are faced with the cannon ball that is Mike Tyson's fist. If that fight wasn't an advertisement for stopping people battering each other's brains into tomorrow, I don't

Apparently, four out of five people in this country can't understand the labels on bottles of suntan lotion. I find that difficult to believe. They're hardly on the level of Einstein's Theory of Relativity, are they? It's easier to believe that people choose to ignore them. After all, mad dogs and Englishmen and all that. What a great summer it's going to be this year. Thousands of roasting



Mad dogs: no notion of lotion

facing a drought as it is, because of the negligence of the privatised water authorities. I wouldn't be surprised if

a plague of locusts finishes us all off.

osses in the supplies division of the NHS must be very pleased they are going to get whacking great payoffs when their jobs are axed, as yet another reorganisation goes ahead. Fm sure if someone had time to sit down and actually work out the amount of money that has been wasted in these constant

reorganisations in the administration of the NHS, it would amount to a staggering sum. It would also be easier to swallow if anyone felt that the executives at the top of the NHS were actually doing a good job - but they're not. The experience of most people is that the whole service is falling apart because the goodwill of nurses and doctors has been exploited beyond belief. As a spokesman said, "There are always costs when you shed jobs." Yes, mate, but the costs are being carried by the people that can least afford it ... ordinary people who deserve decent healthcare and not the

And if a plague of locusts doesn't finish us all off, tuberculosis may well do. This disease, which a lot of us associate with a swooning Emily Bronte or Dickensian slums, is making a big come-back. It's mainly a

shambles we've got at the moment.

disease associated with poverty and demonstrates the gap that is opening op between the rich and poor. Certain new strains of TB are resistant to current antibiotics, so perhaps money needs to be put into research to stamp it out once and for all. That's if there's any money left after the NHS bosses have grabbed it.

So there's now a Supermodel Sindy range. Must rush out and buy one. Apparently there have been problems in the design of the dolls, particularly as far as Naomi Campbell is concerned. She sent one prototype back because the head was too hig. (Are you sure?). How nice for little girls to have yet another set of dolls whose measurements most of them will never be able to live up to. Claudia Schiffer didn't like the colour of the bair on bers, but seems perfectly happy to accept the fact that it's got a ridiculous, fatuous expression on its face. These dolls are plastic and empty beaded and have nothing to say for themselves. Not so different from the real thing, then.



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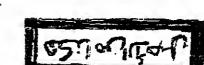
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Living on the ledge: the random risk society

200. How much do you need to eat to catch it? And anyway, the scientists, their authority rapidly fading, might have got it wrong. Maybe scrapic is not the source of BSE. Perhaps it's organo-phosphates. That might mean BSE is still rampant, so beef you cal now might carry a risk of giving you the deadly Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease.

But how does the risk of catching CJD compare with other risks that besiege its every day? It's so difficult to know how much to worry. The risk of dying from CJD is probably less than the risk of dying from smoking 10 cigarettes a day (one in 200) but more of a risk than being hit by lightning (one in 10 million). But are you at more or less of a risk from CJD than from dying of influenza (one in 5,000) an accident of the road (one in \$,000) or while playing soccer (one in 25,000)? Who knows? Certainly not the scientists. The best guess that John Pattison, head of the Government's advisory committee on BSE, could offer us was that there may in future be hardly any more CJD deaths linked to BSE - or there

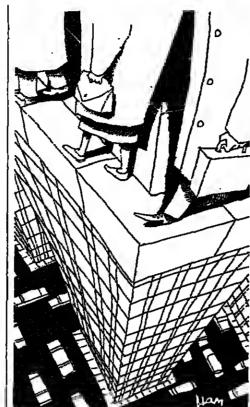
could be an epidemic.

This week, everyone is facing an unknown and barely calculable new risk of dying. Risk has become an inescapable part of our lives. There was a time when a rish was something you indulged in for a bit of excitement, a flutter on the side. A punt on the Grand National, a spin of the wheel - it was all meant to add a bit of spice to an otherwise orderly and predictable life, Even

when Mrs Thatcher preached to us that risk was something we could choose to take. In the insecure, uncertain Nincties, most of life seems to have become a flutter. We no longer choose to take risks; we have them thrust upon us. This week, our lives have become an experiment inflicted upon us by the beef industry, with absolutely nobody in charge of the laboratory. The most ordinary of decisions - which cut of meat should one buy - has become laced with life and death chance. Our society seems to have hecome riddled with random risks. Calculating and managing risks has become one of our main preoccupations. That used to be a specialist job for actuaries, insurers and scientists. Now we all have to engage in it, with whatever rusty tools we can lay our hands on - sometimes the calculator, sometimes the astrology columns.

The accelerating rate of economic change driven on by global competition has made life for virtually everyone more insecure than it used to he. Even relatively young, highly qualified grad-uates face the risk that their skills may become outmoded before they realise it. Few employers protect their employees against the risks of redundancy. Workers bave to bear those risks hemselves: more middle-class people are calculating how to insure themselves against the inse-

Privatisation and constraints upon public spending are another source of higher risk for individuals. In the post-war period, the state took responsibility for organising collective insurance against many risks - ill health, bouts of uncmployment, poverty in old age. Now, increasingly,



about how much to put by.

Yet the source of the most troubling new risks we face is something most of us would regard as unequivocally beneficial – our expanding knowledge. It is partly because we know more about the hrain that we now know that people in a persistent vegetative state may be conscious and so should not have their life-support machines turned off. As scientific knowledge opens up new opportunities for us, it also makes the world more complex and unknowable, at least by any one individual. For instance, the technology now used to fly a plane across the Atlantic is probably beyond the understanding of any one person. As a result, the risk of a plane crash becomes more difficult to calculate. As technology races ahead, we are left behind panting with ignorance, increasingly unable to understand or control the machines we depend upon and so less able to calculate the consequences of their going wrong. Environmental science has encouraged us to be less parochial and short-term in our thinking. We now worry about the consequences of our actions an future generations in far-flung places. But this admirable long terminal less participations in far-flung places. long-termism also makes it more difficult to calculate the risks of our decisions. What is the risk that your grandchildren's environment will suffer if you use that aerosol or your car too much?

The problem this leaves us with is not just one of calculating risks but taking responsibility for them. Take the grounding of the Sea Empress as an example – who among the owner, the agents,

it's down to individuals to plan their personal health and pension plans; to calculate the risks for themselves and make their own decisions bour how much to make their own decisions about how much to make their own decisions. a husiness, a worker and the state share the cost of insuring against the risks of unemployment in the global market? When new risks such as Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease arise, we blame politicians and demand they take action, but which of us seriously believes the hapless Stephen Dorrell is responsible for this crisis, other than in a purely totemic way? Politicians might pick up the can-but it hardly gets us anywhere. This week, the im-ited authority of scientists has also been exposed. Once they were confident BSE was not linked to CJD. Now they are not so sure. But for all their expertise, they cannot tell us how big the risk is or what we should do to guard against it.

What we need to cope better with life in a riskprone society are information and openness from government and business so we know more about the risks we face, wider education to allow us to judge risks better and new mechanisms for sharing risks which overcome the drawbacks of both the traditional welfare state and private insurance markets. Perbaps the most important mechanism for ensuring ordinary citizens do not shoulder all the risks is consumer power to bold government and business to account for their actions.

The social thinker Professor Ulrich Beck of Munich University, author of a best-selling book in Germany called *The Risk Society* and a keynole speaker at an Institute of Public Policy research conference next week, has coined a term for the state we are in - organised irresponsibility. This week, that sounds all too accurate.

■ LETTERS TO THE EDITOR ■

BSE: doubts over relevance of the link with scrapie

BSE and CID has been characterised by a lack of clear statements of the uncertain basis on which most strategy decisions have been made.

Much strategy has been based on the assumption that BSE was derived from scrapic. an encephalopathy of sheep caused by "prion" infective agents. It was assumed that its properties have been maintained in cattle. The evidence that scrapie was the source of BSE is essentially that it is the only common form of prion disease in the food chain. However, any species with a prion gene (ie all known mammals) can mutate to produce an inherited encephalopathy and this would potentially be infective (this is true of the muta-tions causing human CJD). experiments. Relatively low Cattle could themselves have numbers of animals are used in been the source of the infection giving a new disease with no species barrier into cows and a

debatable situation for humans. Despite these doubts over the relevance of scrapie, much was based on the fact that the agent would be scrapic-like. It was argued that, like scrapie, it would be unlikely to cross the

Curiously, it was not argued

A code called

human rights

Sir: Andrew Marr (1th March)

suggests there exists a code

which abhors homophobia and

rejects religious reachings on hell and sin but which two don't yet have a word for".

The name he is searching for is

came of age after the horrors of the Second World War. Then,

the international community set out to establish a set of sec-

ular ethics in the form of inter-

national instruments which bind

all states that ratify them. Often

misunderstood as no more than

a vehicle for protecting individ-

uals from abuse of power by

governments, these instruments

are an attempt to influence the

moral climate of society as a

whole (see, for example, the

preamble to the UN's Interna-

tional Covenants on Civil and

Political and Economic, Social

and Cultural Rights). Perhaps it

is the failure of successive gov-ernments to incorporate these

standards into our law or to

require them to be taught in

schools that accounts for our

Sir: It is not true that the sale

vented (leading article, 20)

March). For it to be sold there

will have to be buyers, and who

will come forward if they risk

forfeiting their shares at the

issue price in exchange for long-

It is not just a question of los-

ing a bit more of the lamily sii-

ver, for this privatisation would

destroy all possibility of a coher-

ent transport policy. Trains on

privately owned rails will never

compete with cars on publicly

P J STEWART

term lew-interest bonds?

of Railtrack cannot be pre-

FRANCESC V KLUG

Policy Consultant

London EC (

ignorance of them.

Off the rails

the code of human rights. Born in the Enlightenment, it

scrapic, ie that there would be vertical transmission (mother to calf) or horizontal transmission (between unrelated cattle), the normal mode of transmission of scrapic. Presumably this was ignored in order to argue against an expensive slaughter policy in infected herds, in terms of a proposed slaughter policy, it is imperative to note that pasture that has carried infected sheep remains infective for some years

Slaughter alone does not elimi-

nate scrapie. The arguments about the effieacy of removing offal and hence climinating the risk of transmission are based on the fact that muscle and milk contain very low amounts of infective agent, as these experiments, but the ducting on the human popula- worth these risks? tion involves 60 million people. and it is not at all clear what level of disease low amounts of infectious agent would produce in this

and burnt, this is only when they show recognisable symptoms. It is like the difference between France banning British beef that the pattern of infection. Aids and HIV infection - the the same Government which

would be similar to that of asymptomatic phase provides not so long ago was protesting the public health problem.

Professor Hugh Woodland Department of **Biological Sciences** University of Warwick

Sir: Beef sales will surely plummet even further this weekend as people heed the warnings over mad cow disease. But those who are truly concerned with keeping their family healthy would do better to after the sheep are removed, avoid the meat aisle all together. Meat eating has been con-

clusively linked with the nation's top killers - heart disease, stroke and certain forms of cancer. Ninety-five per cent of all food poisoning is caused by animal products, with salmonella, campylobacter, and e-coli bacteria killing hundreds of Britons every year. With tasty vegetarian food so widely "experiment" we have been con- available, is cating meat really

TONI VERNELLI People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals London NW1

target population.
While infected carde are killed Sir: Is the Government I see running to the European Commission to complain about

so viciously about the Euro-

pean Court of Justice? Perhaps if Britain had kept its mouth shut more and accepted the rough with the smooth, we would not now be witnessing our European part-ners gleefully taking revenge for so many years of insults. slights and disruptive behaviour from Westminster and beyond. DAVID LIUNGGREN Londoo W1

Sir: With the recurring concern over the quality of beef and heef meat by-products and whether they are safe to eat. this is an ideal time to sit back. look at what we cat and try new May 1 recommend venison as

a replacement for beef. It is an extremely healthy meat with very low fat content and extremely tasty.

Newbury, Berkshire

Sir: Now that the Government has been forced into the open about CJD, can we have honesty about another mad government disease, the effects, on users, of organophosphate

HUGH MACKIE Waterlooville, Hampshire

'Teach' marriage in schools

Polly Toynbee applauds divorce as "our century's great libera-tor". The only problem she sees with the staggering 158,000 divorces in 1994 is that economically, we have made no adaptation to divorce.

The solution, she suggests, is to create "a social and economic system that makes it possible for mothers both to earn and care for their children". Surely this is a contradiction in terms. No matter how much a mother could earn, someone else would be caring for her children. While the majority of child-minders are kind, loving individuals, can they really be expected to feel the same sense of responsibil-ity for a child's emotional, intellectual and spiritual development as the parents?

In Britain today, 25 per cent of all children experience their parents' divorce before they are 16 years old. Research from Exeter University found that children from "re-ordered" families (those whose families had suffered separation and divorce) were twice as likely to

Sir. In her column (20 March). report health and self-worth problems, three times more likely to have school-work and social life difficulties, and four times more likely to have behavioural problems. ..

The interviewers found that children can cope better with their parents fighting and even with the death of a parent than they can with a parent leaving. In other words, in general, as far as children are concerned, a bad marriage is better than a good divorce.

Surely, the solution is oot to make divorce "easier" through the Family Law Bill, but to invest in marriage. Marriage education should form part of the curriculum for our schools. We need to focus on reconciliation rather than mediation by providing more funding for counselling for struggling

marriages. The married couples tax allowance, now worth 13.30 per week less to basic-rate taxpayers in hard cash than it was two years ago, should be substantially increased.

DOROTHY ADAM Stirling

Confusion over PVS and brain death

Sir: I have been following the debate on persistent vegeta-tive state (leading article, 18 March).

As a nurse with 15 years experience of working in intensive care I feel it is extremely important to differentiate between brain death and PVS. In brain death there are no reflexes present and the patient does not breathe when off a ventilator despite raising the blood CO2 in an attempt to stimulate respiration. Brain and are taken twice, 24 bours apart, by separate consultants. PVS patients can breathe

unaided and display at least basic reflexes, eg pupil reaction to a hright light; brain dead

patients do not. To confuse the two states is to cause extreme distress to relatives who may feel they should not have allowed treatment to be withdrawn following brain death, and also results in braindead patients remaining on ventilators until all body sys-tems fail and also a fall-off in the availability of organs for donation, which is so valuable and often a comfort to bereaved relatives.

NEDA M. DESMOND Easthourne, Sussex

death tests follow strict criteria

ITN's coverage of Dunblane

Sir: Those who read Meg Carter's article "Public interest versus private grief" (19 March) might well have gained the impression that Lord Wakeham and Superintendent Louis Munn were critical of ITN's coverage of the Dunblane tragedy. This is

certainly not the case. Both would, in fact, have asserted that ITN's coverage was responsible and sensitive. Furthermore, Meg Carter sug-gests that TV approached relatives for "the almost instant TV interviews with the bereaved". That is, quite simply, not true. It would be contrary to our guidelines, which were endorsed rigorously throughout the time of the tragedy. I know the BBC and Sky adopted the same

approach. It should also be pointed out

RICHARD TAIT Editor in Chief, ITN London WC1

In fact the band's original songs always celebrated their ability to make "cash from chaos". They called their 1979 film The Great Rock and Roll Swindle and it featured the running motif of a cash register clocking up how much they were earning from their inabilily to string two chords together. The Sex Pistols never claimed to be less money-grabbing than those that came

Never mind your D'Arcys and Biggleses; if there is any fictional character that I envy, it is Babar the Elephant. In his adventures, he is rescued from a circus by an older woman who buys him clothes, a nice Africa. There he becomes king of all the Elephants, defeating the Rhinoceroses in battle by

scaring his enemies away. cess as an overweight toyboy or pro-Bahar. My fascination is with Babar the social engineer. the constructor of a New Order. On the banks of a flowing river, he built the garden city of Celesteville, complete with public park, a palace of culture and bospital - all with its own town

council. Unfortunately, the Babar books neglect to inform students of political science which system of election the progressive pachy-derm installed. But this week we may have had a glimpse of what it might have been. Imagine Celesteville divided into, say, 18 constituencies, each with five councillors. Different parties (representing the well-ordered strata of elephant society - arti-sans, manual labourers, bottompainters, etc) would stand, and electors would make a single selection. Finally, to ensure minority groups (such as monkeys and flamingoes) are represented, each of the 10 parties with the production and the second standard standard selections. with the most votes would get an extra two councillors.

This is, of course, the system proposed by John Major on Thursday for the election of a peace forum" in Northern Ire- sented at the forum. land, and it looks good to me. True, unlike Celesteville council, the forum does not have a clear role. Some of its members will take part in talks leading to an eventual settlement, and many will not. But with truly Babar-ian wisdom, the Government recognises that they can play a role by meeting from time to time, and having a chat. About things.

Unaccountably, the jowly patriarchs of Ulster politics have not taken to the idea. It is messy, unprecedented and overcomplicated, they complain. But surely, no system of itself guar-

antees wise choice.

One example will suffice. Few nations are more committed to (a) democracy and (b) Europe, than the Greeks, who invented sports car, and expedites his both. Yet at the last (nicely pro-escape to a picturesque part of portionate) elections to the European Parliament, they voted for large-boned chanteuse Nana Mouskouri to represent them at the simple ruse of painting eyes' Strasbourg despite the fact that on his followers' bottoms, thus she admitted that she was only standing as a favour to a friend. But it isn't for his early suc- and would never attend. "Personally, I have no interest in, or

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Conversely, are there many electoral processes as historically successful as that which selects a new pope - 120 cardinals gather in the Sistine Chapel, God guides them, they cast secret ballots, and when there is a two-thirds majority for one of their number, bingo, he becomes infallible. The only reforms in 2,000 years have been one to prevent bribery, and another, last month, to force cardinals to bring doctors' cer-tificates with them (presumably to prevent God from making an expensive error). "Dottore hmelz begs to reassure The Almighty that Cardinal Spinotti will not soon be knocking at his

door. This proves that what is important is not the elegance of the sys-tem but the outcome. And I believe that the same will be true m Ulster, where the plus-Babariste aspect of the Major proposal means that the Natural aw Party-the smiling devotees who brought us yogic flying and other paths to enlightenment— will almost certainly be repre-

To appreciate the significance of this, cast your mind forward. The forum is in session. Paisley in the middle of a violent diatribe. Hume balfway out of the door. Trimble puce and tremhling. Jowls are wob-hling. Then, from the Natural Law corner, comes the soothing hum of a mantra. The room goes quiet, and Gerry Adams and Patrick Mayhew, legs tucked beneath them, levitate above the heads of the forum. slowly float toward each other

is now a whole generation to whom the film Elvira Madigan means nothing? Like being told that another popular piece was once the signature tune for Listen With Mother - or should it now be Grandmother? MARTIN SHAW

that the article was constructed of quotes which were taken from a variety of sources but not from speaking directly to either Lord Wakcham. Supt Munn or myself.

Letters should be addressed to Letters to the Editor, The Independent. One Canada Square. Canary Wherf, London E14 5DL (Fax: 0171-293 2056; e-mail: letters@independent.co.uki and include a daytime telephone number.

Honest greed

QUOTE UNQUOTE

This is a dog's breakfast. But it is probably the only dog's breakfast on offer and it may well be the best dog's breakfast possible given the position the Government found itself in - Paddy Ashdown, Liberal Democrat leader, on the Ulster poll scheduled for May 30

It does not seem to require any extra, sophisticated electronic equipment to achieve what can already be done by switching the set off - Harry Greenway. Conservative MP, expressing doubts about the proposed V-chip in televisions

This is one of the most disgraceful episodes in this country's his tory and I want a full inquiry into the Government's conduct and the way it has used and misused scientific advisers - Professor Richard Lacey, microbiologist, accusing the Government of risking public health over BSE in order to protect the farming community Never before have diseased ruminants (sheep) been fed to other ruminants (cows) and then fed to humans. We have interfered

Thames Valley University, on mad cow disease Quiet! I'm trying to travel! - Maureen Lipman, who used to act PAUL MOSS in BT commercials, incensed by constant chattering on mobile London W11 phones by her fellow passengers on a train

with the whole process of nature and what is now happening is

one of our worst nightmares - Tim Lang, food policy professor,



Giant tortoise in the Galapagos

Support for the Galapagos Islands

Sir: Your article "A hit squad to save Darwin's paradise isles 111 March) did an excellent job in appraising your readers of some of the very serious threats to the biodiversity of the Galapagos Islands, but at the same time it gave a misleading impression of the role of the Galapagos Conservation Trust, downplayed the role of the Galapagos National Park and omitted all mention of the Charles Darwin Foundation. The Galapagos National Park has done an excellent job over

the past 20 years to ensure the preservation of the Galapagos, it has been fighting an uphill battle and it has lacked both

resources and political support.
All conservation programmes in Galapagos are car-ried out by the National Park Service with the help and support of the Charles Darwin Research Station, which was set up in 1900 to advise the Ecuadorian government on the conservation of this most important of all national parks.

JULIAN FITTER Chairman, Galapagos Conservation Trust

co-operation.

Shaftesbury, Dorset

tion Trust has been set up in the

UK to help and support the Galapages National Park and

the Charles Darwin Research

Station by raising awareness of

and funds for the preservation

of this truly wonderful archi-pelago. We will not, as the arti-

cle implies, be making unilat-

eral decisions, the main work

and decisions will be for the

Galapagos National Park to

make with our full support and

The Galapagos Conserva-Comets are now and rncks" (19 March). more exotic

Sir: In relation to a brief new asserted that comets are material of comets is far more

"frozen bodies of gas, liquid

Though this view was once held by the majority of scientists, it is now known to be erroaddition to the night sky, comet neous. For new explorations of Hyukatake. Charles Arthur comet Halley show us that the

out. Some 30 per cent of the chemicals - the stuff of life

K WICKRAMASINGHE

Cardiff

exotic than Mr Arthur makes comet was found to be made up of extremely complex organic

Elvira who?

Sir. Robert Cowan's protest (20

March) encourages me to air my pet musical irritation - the

now routine nickname Elvira

Madigan attached to Mozart's

21st piano concerto. Classic

FM never fails to mention it and

Is it too late to say that there

even Radio 3 is not immune.

Sir: Your leader (19 March) criticises the re-formed Sex Pistols for being "happy to exploit commerical opportunism", some-thing you say they "led a gener-ation to believe they disdained".

before, simply more honest.

Letters may be edited for tength and clarity. We regret we are unable to acknowledge unpublished letters. Linear, Charles Wilson ASSLEVER LIMITOR Charles Leadhenter viewed entropy Colin Hughes section from Entropy Simon Keiner exceptive news fortion: Michael Williams Steam flagrow: Richery Britzers: Newspaper flow from the world for predefease Lizar Healy (charman), Lord Borne, Juni Liis Cebrian, Ben Bradlas, Lover Diez de Polanco, Brendan Hopkins, Drend Montgomery, Andreas Whatam Smith Adventisand Distactors foreign Reed

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The BSE crisis has placed the Health Secretary centre stage. **Mary Braid** wonders if he

Cushioned for months by the simple fact that he was not Virginia, Stephen Dorrell's lengthy honeymoon as Secretary of State for Health came to a dramatic, about end this week.

will cope

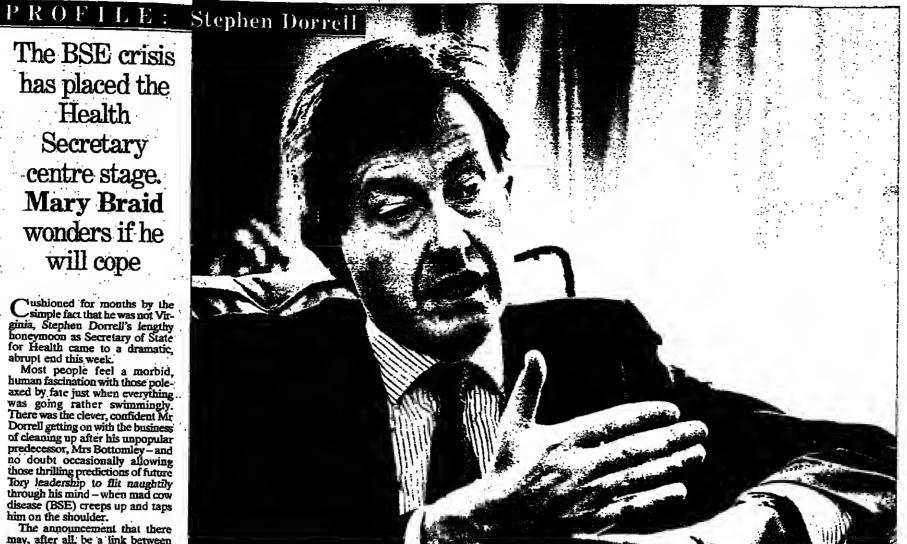
abrupt end this week.

Most people feel a morbid, human fascination with those pole-axed by fate just when everything. was going rather swimmingly. There was the clever, confident Mr Dorrell getting on with the business of cleaning up after his unpopular predecessor, Mrs Bottomley – and no doubt occasionally allowing those thrilling predictions of future Tory leadership to flit naughtily through his mind - when mad cow disease (BSE) creeps up and taps him on the shoulder.

The announcement that there may, after all, be a link between BSE in animals and Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease (CJD) in humans and speculation that it may claim as many as 500,000 lives - has scared the public. It has also shaken Mr Dorrell's political ambitions. In a relatively trouble-free ministerial career, he has never before faced a crisis on this scale. The next few weeks will be crucial for a man, who in 1994 was known to only 4 per cent of voters, but is now tipped for

Number 10, Of course there have been political difficulties before for the member for Loughborough, who gave up a career in his father's industrial overall business to became an MP in 1979. (His 20 per cent share-holding in the family business and his wife Annette's place on the board ensures an interest and income outside parliament.) First Mr Dorrell, at 27 the youngest of the 1979 mtake, languished on the backbenches. Mentored by David Hunt, the former Welsh secretary, he was, both by association and in his own social policy ideas, too damp for Mrs Thatcher's liking.

But after becoming a junior health minister in 1990 he moved swiftly on and up to become Financial Secretary to the Treasury and then Secretary of State for National Heritage. There was that embar-rassing occasion when Mr Dorrell revealed that he thought that Jeanne Moreau, the French actress, was a man. Some found it hard to forgive in a national heritage secretary who had already confessed he could not remember the last film he saw. His detractors sniffed that



Enter the invisible man

he was just too middle-market and middlebrow bourgeois for the job. But these are mere ripples com-

pared to the current storm. The question is, can Mr Dorrell retain his legendary cool? His unflappability - and dry sense of humour was clearly demonstrated when his mother was recently splashed across the front of the local paper squirming all week. He has refused to give a direct answer. He gave an uncharacteristically

poor Commons performance when he made his statement on BSE. "Once be started reading he didn't lift bis head once," said one commentator. "He totally failed to see the human dimension. He forgot to say he realised that people would

Even Stephen Dorrell's critics say that he is 'awesomely talented'

objecting to the closure of an old folks home in which his father had died. Confronted by the picture of mum and her spaniel, be reportedly said: "Oh well, at least it is a nice

picture of the dog."
Mrs Porrell's latest media encounter may prove more testing. She revealed in the Daily Mirror yesterday that Mr Dorrell does not eat burgers and nor do his two young children. The question of whether he would feed beef to his own children has had Mr Dorrell

be anxious; that the news was worrying. He was clearly worried about how this would look in five or 10 years' time. He is a very ambitious man and he wants to cover and distance himself. His later statement that he didn't bave a scientific opinion worth listening to on the subject was quite hizarre. It was a

sibility for a minister." But admirers see the week's performance as a reflection, of bis preference for understatement and his

remarkable abdication of respon-

low-key style. Until recently, Mr Dorrell regularly loop-the-looped in the skies over his Worcester bome in his beloved Tiger Moth. But his devil side is an aberration: frequent comparisons of the minister to the clean-cut models that adorn Fifties knitting patterns are more in keeping with his personal style and political approach. Mr Dorrell would balk at the

notion of a Gummer-style photo opportunity involving his children. And the rather grave Mr Dorrell would have frowned had he inher-ited "Minister for Fun", the nick-name given to David Mellor, his predecessor at heritage. If anything characterises Mr Dorrell it is, they

say, "caution". Even Stephen Dorrell's critics say he is "awesomely talented". Civil servants are full of praise for his command of bis brief, manage-

ment skills, courtesy and his loyalty. One political commentator recalls Mr Dorrell's "impressive" return to the Department of Health last year. "Within a week he found himself in front of a health select committee. He had the standard ministerial brief in front of him but never had to open it once." However, Mr Dorrell shares John Major's "greyness".

"There is a touch of the civil servant in him. He hasn't got a big personality and that is a problem," says one political admirer. "Like Kenneth Clarke, he is a confident performer. Both men stand out in the political arena because they will concede points but go on to fight their cor-ner. But Stephen Dorrell is Clarke without the high wire. He is safer, less exciting and less glamorous."

Mr Dorrell claims to enjoy being grilled by Jeremy Paxman. "He is an ideas politician," says one commentator. He is there because he is interested in politics, not because of his ego. And he sees politics with an outsider's eye. He likes to talk to journalists to sharpen his arguments.

But he will never be leader of his party. He is just too rational, reasonable and calm a man. He is not combative enough on TV to get the backbenchers' blood up."

Others do not dismiss him so readily. Chris Ham, health economist and adviser to Dorrell, says that everything depends on how he handles his greatest crisis. What is certain is that Mr Dorrell, until recently virtually unknown, will never again be seen as the Cabinct's Invisible Man. BSE will make him or break him.

Vermeer's frozen time draws pilgrims

Andrew Marr explains why Britons are journeying to an exhibition in the Hague

Belgians and very many others have trekked to a small, cramped art gallery in the Hague. There, crammed together they have passed by 22 smallish paintings, mostly of mundane domestic scenes. made more than three centuries ago by a man of whom we know little. Why? Because many, the lucky people, will experience something extraordinary, something they will never forget.

Vermeer is beyond explana-tion. Like all the great artists, what he did escapes words. There are very few Vermeers in the world. Of the 35 known, here are 22. The last time a similar number of Vermeers were gathered together was in May 1696 at a public auction in Amsterdam. The like of this exhibition may not be seen again for another 300 years. Then there is the technical explanation, the description of Vermeer's daring techniques: his use of the camera obscura, and pins with threads to produce perfect perspective; the delicate washes and radical mixes of paint with grit to produce different surfaces: the complex and intellectual attitude to lighting. Vermeer is a risk-taking experimenter to delight in. He can use dribbles of pure colour (the scarlet lace in The Lacemaker 1 in a way that reminds one of Van Gogh or Jackson Pollock. His flicks of highlight on lips or rich Turk-ish carpets are as flashily brilliant as anything in Manet. His later short-hand treatment of cloth, dividing it into blocks of tumbling fabric, is positively

ing there which doesn't at this technical level provide sbocks and gasps of delight. Yet, just as the size of the exhibition is really a curatorial curiosity, so the technical descriptions of Vermeer are only a start. The point of the pilgrimage is the search for some-thing that comes close to spiri-tual revelation. What Vermeer of such intensity that one did, with paint, was to halt time. Watching his silent women hy windows, pouring milk, reading letters or examining pearls, is like seeing moments of ordinary life seized, held fast and hroken open, revealing some inex-

Cubist. There is hardly a paint-

pressible mystery.
Sometimes the mystery is

This wintry spring, Holland has been a place of pilgrimage. Some 20,000 British as well as 101,000 French, 40,000 The Girl with the Wine Glass. It is a mundane enough scene. But stand in front of it and really look and it becomes a despairing image of vanity, a human moment stripped unbearably bare. In an entirely different mood is Girl with the Red Hat. a tiny thing, a luscious, dazzling moment of pure lust.

Then there's the famous tien of Delft, which is a terrifying picture. The town is picked out in hyper-realist detail while above and below the clouds and shadows pour out of the frame toward the viewer. Change seethes around Vermeer's home town in a meditation about transience and extinction which cannot he properly described. In Project's Remembrance of

oan; frie 1: Gc 10. G 1 Ar ralia

Time's Past, the writer Bergotte

Despair is in contrast with luscious moments of pure lust

goes to a Parisian exhibition where, standing before this very painting, he is driven into a mystical crisis and deep despair while staring at a patch of yellow wall: "In a celestial pair of scales there appeared to him. weighing down one of the pans, his own life, while the other contained the little patch of wall so beautifully painted in vellow. He felt that he had rashly sacrificed the former for the latter." Bergotte, the atheist author, then dies, Well, the painting is still there and the wall is still yellow and the lownscape is as aweinspiring as ever.

Proust, who loved Vermeer. is the writer who comes nearest to his genius and to explaining the pilgrimage. He too was obsessed by the possibility of breaks through into a different moment. The French writer and the Dutch painter were both working on the edge where artistic technique meets mystical experience. If music is time decorated, they were masters of time frozen. And that, in the end, is why so many people unutterably sad, sometimes have been drawn to Holland.

When believers desert their church

Methodism, facing extinction, must learn the importance of not being earnest, says Andrew Brown

In a compensive world, it can seem unusually Christian of the Methodist Church to announce that it is dying, but dying, in an alarmingly literal sense, is what last week's membership figures mean. The church is losing members at a rate of 2.5 per cent a year, if these trends persist, it will have vanished altogether by the

middle of the next century.

The problem for the church is not that its members are losing faith: the number who left over the past three years is only 2,000 greater than the number who joined. No, the members the Methodists are really missing will now find their faith is stronger than ever, unfortunately. that is because they are dead. More than 30,000 Methodists have died in the past three years, and their younger replacements are nowhere to be seen. Church membership under the age of 26 has fallen by a fifth in three years. It is possible to be precise about these figures because membership of the Methodists is by subscription. Their churches do not have the large, half-believing penumbra that surrounds Anglican or Roman Catholic membership figures.

Of course, the release of this week's figures was not meant as an invitation to other denominations to start stripping the remaining assets of Methodism. It was meant, in the words of one insider, "to give the church a fright", so that its members would do something about the prob-lem. Extinction for the Methodists bad been confidently prophesied in the Fifties and averted, so why should the threat be real this time?

The answer is a profoundly gloomy one, with implications for all the mainstream denominations in Britain. Methodism, it would appear, is dying out because it is boring. Unfortunately, it is no longer boring in ways that Methodists can be proud of Boringness used to be one of the great strengths of Methodism. It started as a frighteningly exciting mass-movement of the poor and dispossessed, but, within a generation, the poor who became Methodists stopped being so poor. They became sober, industrious, trustworthy, and so, by degrees respectable, often with the fierce, self-righteous respectability of those who know that an abyss of poverty and shame lies close beneath them. It is a process that continues to this day as protestantism advances

in Latin America and Eastern Europe. In England, it produced a serious, instantly excluded perhaps from the higher reaches of the establishment, but hugely important in the provinces. Mrs Thatcher was brought up a Methodist. The people some of us came to London to escape were Methodists.

In other words, they might be boring, but they mattered. Methodism had become the natural expression of the spiritual dimension of a distinct and recognisable class. What made it boring or repellent to some people was solidity, not vapidity. And the other large Christian denominations were also embedded in a recognisable matrix. Irish working-class Catholics or Anglican old maids cycling to communion down misty country lanes both represented religions tightly established in particular social and economic roles. This was enormously important because reli-

gions only exceptionally spread by force of argument, or by conversion. Their most effective means of transmission is by osmosis. It is a great mistake of modern secular talk to assume that religions are primarily about belief, when they are actually about practice and ritual. You are not converted to a faith - you grow up in it, with-

out noticing that this is happening. So religions that established themselves and put down roots in particular parts of society are very vulnerable to social change. Whether "family values" are integral to Christianity (and Jesus himself said some fierce things against families), they are certainly helpful for its transmission. The precipitous decline of the Roman Catholic church in this country is largely a function of its conversion from a working-class



recognisable, deeply rooted class of meritocrats, John Wesley, founder of Methodism, on his death-bed

Mary Evans Picture Library

religion to a middle-class one, with smaller, less stable families. However, Catholicism has a solid core of doctrine that makes it attractive to intellectual converts. Though there still are distinc-tive and shrewd Methodist intellectuals, it is not a system of thought. When Mrs Thatcher made the shift from attending a Methodist chapel to an Anglican church, this was a social move, not

a doctrinal one. One Anglican priest who, like Mrs Thatcher. was a Methodist until he arrived at Oxford, said that he had left because of "the frightful loquacious earnestness of Methodists. I suddenly realised it was possible to be a Christian with out being earnest." This was hardly a doctrinal shift. However, it does suggest ways in which the virtues that act as ropes and pitons to hold you above the abyss of poverty and shame can

come to seem cramping when the abyss recedes.

This is all part of a wider pattern. The United Reform Church, itself formed from a merger of smaller congregationalist bodies, is shrinking almost as fast as the Methodists, and hopes for salvation by union with them. The Methodists, in turn, seem to have no real longterm strategy beyond union with the Church of England - but that body, too, is facing similar problems and for similar reasons. In all these churches, there are success stories, but these are local, and decentralised. People do join, even if fewer join than leave and die; and techniques for attracting new members are being

developed. In America, of course, churches have gained strength from social disruption by becoming social centres themselves. Some churches are doing that in this country now. The most successful modern evangelical technique is the Alpha course, developed at Holy Trinity Brompton, an enormously rich Anglican church in central London, whose methods have been widely adopted elsewhere.

Alpha is a course for modern, mobile and rootiess people. It is taken in groups over a 10week period, and includes a residential weekend. To outsiders, it can look like brainwashing: it is certainly as much an introduction to belonging among Christians as it is to holding particular beliefs. But if the decline of Methodism lends itself to any moral, this is surely that churches are more vigorous when they are frightening than when boring.

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cathedral choir, choral society

and the organ. At the sugges-

tion of the Rev David Marriott

then headmaster of the choir

school, Ridout was asked to give

composition lessons to the cho-

risters. In the early 1970s, after

the closure of the choir school

110 which he was vehemently

opposed). Ridout joined the

music staff at the King's School,

Canterbury, where he had

amongst his colleagues Edred Wright, Col Paul Neville and

Barry Rose. His genius for in-

spiring and nurturing talent

will never be forgotten by those

who were lucky enough to be his

Ridout was an immensely

prolific composer and a com-

plete list of his works soon to

be published will run to nearly

a hundred pages. Commissions

were many and varied. For David Willcocks and the Cam-

hridge University Music Society.

a wind symphony | The Adora-

tion of the Magi): for the BBC.

an opera hased on the learus

legend; for Kent Opera The Par-

doner's Tale and a children's opera. Angelo; and, in 1965, the

music for the Royal Maundy

Service at Canterbury. Ridout enjoyed collaborating

with individual instrumentalists

and his associations with Paul

Davis and James Bowman were

especially fruitful. He met Bow-

man in 1970 and his extraordi-

nary voice inspired many

important works including a set-

ting for countertenor solo, cho-

rus and wind of Wilde's Bullud

number of concertinos for solo

instruments with piano or string

accompaniment often written

especially for students or

friends. He wrote for perfor-

mance and his works gave as

much joy to those who per-

formed them as to those who lis-

tened; it is not insignificant

that he is familiar as a composer

to many amateur musicians

Joy and burnour pervaded so

throughout the country.

Ridout's fluency lead to a vast

of Reading Gool.

students.

obituaries/gazette

Alan Ridout

Alan Ridout could have succeeded in almost any walk of life. His outstanding intellectual ability coupled with enviable self-discipline would have ensured a rise to the height of any profession he chose, but from an early age there was no question in his mind but that his life should be devoted to music.

Before he knew that such a thing as composing existed he heard music in his head, and by the age of 12 had written over 100 works. His mother was a vital force in his musical education (and in his life) and it was she who, in the face of lierce onposition from his father, heeded the advice of musical friends and arranged for him to have piano lessons when he was nine years old. By the age of 12 he had reached Grade Eight in the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music examination which he passed with distinction, and at 15 he was allowed to leave Haberdashers' Aske's School, then in Hampstead. and study music full-time at the Guildhall School of Music, In his autobiography. A Composer's Life (1995), he refers to this as the happiest day of his life, for he had known from early childhood that all he wanted to do was write music.

The Guildhall syllabus opened up a new world to the young musician. However, he was disappointed with the composition lessons and in desperation sent a set of variations for ohne and string orchestra to Benjamin Britten with an appeal for help. The reply was encouraging, and taking the advice "At 15 one can learn something from everyone" to heart Ridout spent nearly two years at the Guildhall, (Many years later he was to write a piece for Peter Pears in which Gerald Moore accompanied him.1

In 1951 he was offered a place at the Royal College of Music. Here he studied piano with Thornton Lofthouse and composition with Gordon Jacob, a teacher for whom he had tremendous respect, and Herbert Howells, whose music meant much to Ridout in later

Before leaving the college he took extramural lessons in composition from Peter Racine a week left for composing. Tricker and while teaching near

chance conversation with his risters at Canterbury Cathedral. harher, he met Sir Michael Tippelt, under whom he also studied. In 1958 a Netherlands Government Scholarship gave him the opportunity to study with the composer Henk Badings, who introduced him to the electronic techniques of composing as well as a wide variety of contemporary European mu-



sic. He claimed that, out of all his teachers, he had learned most from Badings.

When he left the Royal College at the age of 20 the probem of making a living and leaving time for composition was solved by his taking up the post of Director of Music at a preparatory school in Kent; teaching was to form an important part of Alan Ridout's career for the next 35 years.

By 1964 he was Professor of Theory and Composition at the Royal College of Music and leaching at Cambridge. Birmingham and London Universities. He became triends with Howard Ferguson, the composer, pianist, and scholar, through whom he met Ursula Vaughan Williams, Friendships such as these. which lasted for the rest of Ridout's life, were important to him on both intellectual and social

In the 1960s he broadcast two substantial series on musical education for the BBC, but did not enjoy the experience and found that with the teaching that he was already committed to he had little more than a lew hours

In 1964 Alan Wicks, then or-Tunbridge Wells, through a ganist and master of the Cho-

commissioned by the Three Choirs Festival and performed commissioned Ridout to write at Hereford in 1994 and again a piece for the cathedral choir. at York Minster only a few Out of this commission came a months ago, should have been collaboration, founded on mu-A Canticle of Joy, a deeply mov-ing consummation of his life's tual admiration, that blossomed into a period of intense creativity centred around the

Alan Ridout's effervescent and spontaneous humour was irresistible and he was unceasingly kind and generous to his friends and to other composers and artists. He was like the best parts of each member of one's family rolled into one; having the wisdom and authority of a father, the love and encouragement of a mother and the closeness of a brother. He was observant of life's problems but never intrusive; his help, advice and support know no hounds. His understanding of human nature gave him the insight to know when he was most needed and the clarity and soundness of his advice grew out of a life of intense observation which began in his earliest childhood

His passions in life spread beyond music to art, architec-ture, food, and, in later life, travel and in all of these his taste was totally individual and often unconventional, being guided by a profound knowledge of his subject and a confident instinct that was invariably right and always retreshing. (Except perhaps in food, where his tastes erred towards the bizarre. He found Mars Bars irresistible and would consume quantities of them throughout a day. I was with him in France recently and hefore catching my boat we looked for a restaurant for lunch. Surrounded by the best that Brittany could offer be chose a Chinese establishment and we are food that could have been found in any high street in England. Perhaps he was

homesick.) He opened people's eyes to aspects of their chosen subject that they had passed over and often drew one's attention to something that had suffered at the hands of the popularists. His great sadness at the death of Leonard Bernstein stemmed from an admiration for a musical polymath whose career had encompassed every aspect, resulting in his dismissal by much that he wrote and it is fit-ting that his last major work, showman. Ridout had no time



for pomposity or snobbishness in any walk of life.

He had a profound but orig-inal faith and was deeply religious; his conversion to Catholicism in 1994 seemed a logical progression for him. Whilst staying with his publisher, June Emerson, in Ampleforth, he felt a magnetism towards the Roman Catholic Community at Ampleforth Abbey and it was there that he was received into the Roman Catholic Church, being made an oblate of the order of St Benedict soon afterwards.

After a serious beart attack

in 1990 when be was told that he could not expect to live for more than two years be decid-ed to move to France, something he had always wanted to do. He found France and the daily courtesy and consideration of the French conducive to the life he wanted to live. He seltled in Vitré, a town he had known for many years, and recently moved to Caen.

Peter Miall

Alan Ridout, composer: born West Wickham, Keul 9 December 1934: died Coen, France 19

and Jo, his wife of 66 years, trav-

elled a great deal. He was a keen

gardener and had a large gar-

den with a paddock where he

kept bees: his friends were all

given honey for Christmas, We

would also he invited to hay-

making parties. Following the recent death of his wife, Perry

continued to live alone and

resisted supervision by his

daughters. He was still baking

Claude Bourdet

On 31 March 1956 French security police came to arrest Claude Bourdet.

He was taken first to the prison of La Santé, then to Fresnes. He was finally taken to some barracks where a magistrate prepared to examine him. "It's curious." Bourdet remarked, "but it's exactly the same as last time. First to Sané, then Fresnes. You've folowed the same route as the others." "What do you mean, the others'?" asked the magistrate, frowning. "Why. the Gestapo, of course," replied Bourdet. You must have beard of them." The magistrate went white with rage. Bourdet thought be was going

to hit him.
In 1956 Bourdet was arrested because he bad written an article attacking the policies of the French government in Algeria. He was accused of demoralising the army. In March 1944 it was as a leader of the Resistance that be was arrested, deported to Oranienburg, and from there to Buchenwald The irony of the 1956 incident was that the orders for his arrest came from two former companions of the Resistance, Bourges-Maunoury, the Minister for Defence, and the bead of his private office, Louis Mangin, who bad been sent from London by de Gaulle to occupied France.

-Thus Bourdet was able to contemplate to what extent the forces that had been united against the Germans had-become disunited. The 1956 arrest was not important, Bourdet being released within hours of his arrest, which bad caused a wave of protests. But, 30 years later, he was still recalling the sadness that it bad caused him. What he considered to be the best in France had become divided bostile to each other. Yet all his life be had con-

templated such divisions and bad, in no small way, himself contributed to them. In the autumn of 1940, Henri Frenay, a distinguished young officer who was bumiliated by the defeat, began to organise patriotic groups in the south of France. Claude Bourdet joined with enthusiasm, and in May 1941 Frenay appointed him the leader of the network in the departments of the Alpes-Maritimes and the Var. The south was not occupied by the Germans, so the task of the Resistance was not so much fighting as propaganda. At this Bourdet and his associates were remarkably successful. From December 1941 onwards their main publication became Combat, which grew from some 5,000 copies an issue to some 150,000. Their Resistance network adopted the name of its

But there were many problems within the Resistance movements. Frenay believed that Pétain, the hero of Verdun, could save France. Bourdet, in long walks along the quais of Marseilles, persuaded him that they had nothing to hope from him. Then there were the Communists. Bourdet was reluctant to co-operate with them. and fearful of their future dommance. Most famous of all were his suspicions of de Gaulle and London, his contempt for those who knew nothing about Resistance work giving orders to those who had gained vast Experience and knowledge.

This last led him to be less than entbusiastic about Jean-Moulin, who was charged by de Gaulle with unifying the dif-

newspaper.

viction that the aim of the Resistance was to create a new France, one which would be modern and progressive. Bourdet's falher

ferent Resistance groupings

But he never wavered in his con-

Edouard Bourdet, a highly successful dramatist; his mother, Catherine Pozzi, a poet with a famous salon. With their divorce, Bourdet studied in Zurich as an engineer. Having become bilingual in French and English through bis English nanny, he became tri-lingual with German attached. As-a left-wing Catholic he supported the Popular Front, and from 1930 be was attached to the economics minister. Charles Spinasse, who disappointed him by being one of the socialists who voted full powers to Pétain in July 1940.

On Bourdet's return to France in 1945 be was elected deputy to the first Consultative Assembly and was for a time in charge of national broadcasting. But his future was in political journalism: He succeeded Albert Camus in the peacetime Combat newspaper, but quarrelied with the owner, and left in order to be one of the founders of the weekly France-Observateur, an independent left-wing publication with great influence.

I first met Bourdet when I was a student at the Ecole Nor-



Photograph: Hulton Deutsch

male Supérieure in 1948, when he came to denounce the war in Indo-China. He told me that he had great bopes of the Labour government in Eng-land, and believed that it would become the leader of a united socialist Europe. In 1957 be came to Birmingham University to speak of French misdeeds in Algeria. His English was perfect but dated. It was curious to bear such a militant speaking the language of Bertie Wooster. His visit was a great

He continued his campaign Against de Gaulle in 1958; in favour of the Third World; working for a new independent socialist party; in opposition to a Europe dominated by capitalism and Germany. Some said that he was the sort of man who would drive his car in order to give help, but would knock an innocent bystander down as be did so.

Others saw him as the stalwart defender of justice, the tireless believer in a better world, a man of outstanding bonesty.

Douglas Johnson

Claude Bourdet, journalist and resister. born Paris 28 October 1909; Founder and Editor, France-Observateur (now Le Nouvel Observateur) 1950-63: books include L'Aventure incertaine 1975; married 1935 Ida Adamoff (two sons, one daughter); died Paris 20 March 1996.

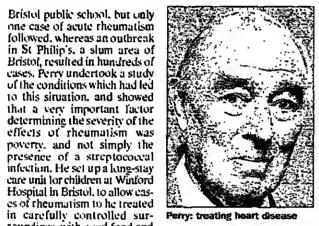
Professor C. B. Perry

C. B. Perry was appointed as the Bristol public school, but only first full-time Professor of Med- one case of acute rheumatism icine in Bristol University in followed, whereas an outbreak 1935. He spent much of his protessional life, which stretched over more than 30 years, in combating the causes of rheumarism and cardiac disease, particularly

in the young.
At the time of his appointcommon disease of young people. It was said to "lick the joints that bite the heart". The phrase was coined to describe the fleeting but immediately apparent pain caused to the oints by the disease, by contrast with its more serious long-term effects on the heart. In the first half of this century, chronic rheumatic heart disease was one of the largest killers of coung people, often causing death from heart failure in the early twenties, and offering little chance of survival past 40. In the 1930s, there was an outbreak of streptococcal throat

to this situation, and showed that a very important factor determining the severity of the ment acute rhoumatism was a effects of rhoumatism was poverty, and not simply the presence of a strentococcal infection. He set up a long-stay care unit for children at Winford Hospital in Bristol, to allow cases of rheumatism to he treated in carefully controlled surroundings, with good food and rest available. He continued care of those with the chronic heart condition into adulthood and throughout their lives, and served as the Chairman of the British Cardiac Society from

ol until 1962. Perry was a Bristol man through and through; he went to the grammar school and infection at Clifton College, a then to the university, where he



qualified with honours in 1926. He undertook, with Dr Carey Coombes at Bristol, some pioneering postgraduate re-

search into myocardial infarction, a common cause of heart attacks, investigating coronary disease, at that time a relatively new area of research. First and foremost, Perry

was on excellent doctor. He

John Altison. Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief Logistics Command, 53: Mr David Atkinson

tude to new medical treatments not suffer fools gladly. preferring a method to be thoroughly tried and tested before he would agree to put it into practice.

He was also concerned with the success of the university as a whole, and not just that of the medical school. He served as Pro-Vice-Chancellor from 1958 to 1961 and was made an Honorary Fellow in 1986. He was involved in the building of the student union in 1965, the maintenance of an excellent student health service and the rehuilding and expansion of the medical school in 1960.

His patients, particularly children, loved him - they quickly saw through his abrupt manner and realised be had an inner kindliness. His students respected him as a hrilliant lecturer and bedside teacher, though they feared him as an examiner. His professional colleagues admired him, although.

record holder, 1921. Deaths: Stend-

maintained a conservative atti- like all determined men, he did Royal College of Physicians. He for his patients at Bristol. With the advent of the Na-

tional Health Service in 1948 he also became a powerful influence in medicine in the southwest region and in the affairs of the Bristol Royal hospitals. He was closely involved with the Royal College of Physicians. serving as President from 1961 to 1962 and was a censor (one of the main examiners for the college) from 1962 until 1964. Perry was fascinated by local

history, and wrote a book on the history of the Royal Infirmary, entitled The Bristol Royal Infirmary 1904-74 (1981). He had a particular interest in Edward Jenner, the Gloucestershire GP who had introduced vaccination against smallpox. Perry helped to establish the Jenner Trust and Museum, at Barclay, and published a biography. Edward Jonner, in 1986.

After his resirement in 1969 Bruce Perty continued his interest in the university and the

his own bread a few days before be died. D. R. Coles Charles Bruce Perry, physician: born 11 November 1903; physician, Bristol Royal Hospita for Sick Children and Women 1928-30: physician, Winford Orthopaedic Hospital 1930-33: Assistant Physician, Bristol Gen-eral Hospital 1933-35; Professor of Medicine. Bristol University 1935-69 (Emeritus); married 1929 Jo Harvey (deceused; three

daughters); died Bristol 12 March 1996.

Bricks and mortar and a sacred space

The exodus to Rome by disaffected Anglicans has hit a snag. They want to take their buildings with them.

In the original exodus, Moses had a hard time persuading the Israelites to leave Egypt, and that was when they only had tents to worry about. A large Victorian Gothic pile is less easy to transport. Nevcrtheless, people cannot bear to leave them behind. This problem throws an interesting light on what exactly are the essentials of the faitb.

At St Stephen's. Gloucester Road, in Kensington, London, Canon Christopher Colven and 35 of his congregation think they might have a solution. After Easter. they are going down the road to be re-ceived into the Roman Catholic Church. The next day, they are coming back again. The diocese of London has agreed to their using the parish church for Roman Catholic masses on Wednesday and Saturday evenings. The part of the congregation which is staying on will continue to keep Sundays to themselves.

At Holy Trinity, Hoxton, in cast London, the diocese has been willing to gn one step further, by declaring the church redundant and leasing it to the Roman Catholics. That way, Fr Stuart Wilson and the 40 of his congregation who went over to Rome earlier this month could have stayed put. The Romans declined, not wanting any more churches in the East End - which must have been a relief to the 35 or so members of the congregation

who have chosen tu remain Anglicans. All will be well now. The diocese is sure to find a priest who is happy to take over at St Stephen's and work alongside bis pre-

Do church buildings matter? Paul Handley, Editor of the Church Times, who has found himself extraordinarily moved just by a shaft of light through stained glass, thinks they do.

congregation in a church which the

diocese is so attached to. The diocese might nor be committed to Holy Trinity, but Jacky Keegan is. She spoke this week about the temptation to become a Roman Catholic. "I would have gone, if t could have stayed in my thurch . . . but I've been there too long to leave it. They say bricks and mortar is nothing, but it isn't for me."

Canon Colven said the same thing in the St Stephen's parish magazine, though in more clerical mode: .

The significance of church huildings ought not to be over-played (they are essentially no more than a roof under which the encharistic family can gather); but neither should they be undercan gamen, but henter should any be theer-played. They are the focus for so many memo-ries that mark important staging posts on the journey to God. They also provide a meeting place with fellow pilgrims both alive and departed.

Colven begins by paying lip-service to the received Christian wisdom. The Church, it has always been said, is the body of Christ. The Church is a living thing, made up entirely of its members. The "justdecessor, and plenty of priests will be glad to move to Holy Trinity, to minister to half a-roof-over-the-head argument is part of

faith preason in the Churco's and acsine ucion (not to be confused with asceticism). What matters is the spiritual communion between the Church's anti-aestheticism (not to be

worshipper and a God who is spirit.
This sentiment rings a little false in a
Church which has billions of pounds invested in courch buildings. Of course the buildings are important. Only look at how impossible it is to get people to agree to even the most modest rationalistion, if it entails closing down or even reducing the use of their church.

It is optimistic to uproof a seedling and

expect it to take in another location. When a post office is closed down, the Royal Mail can be sure that its customers will buy their stamps somewhere else. Not so a church: under such circumstances, many people simply depart, never to return.

The pull of a particular building is hard.

to explain. I once attended a post-war church not far from Holy Trinity. From the outside, it looks like a swimining-pool. In side are some pretty stunoing inurals, but it still resembles a municipal badminton hall. Except for some insignificant stained glass windows high up on the walls. To be praying, and find a stain of coloured light on your band, or your sleeve, was

extraordinarily moving.

Those who are tuned into these things: talk about sacred space. The suggestion is that the bricks, mortar and stone are not important in themselves, but they frame a shape of air. These are motionless bits of the world, rare places where prayers can: be held and not blown away, where God can dwell and be encountered. Light, colour, smell, order and the texture of sound, more precious, to many, than denominational ties, cannot be easily parcelled up and carried away.

Births, Marriages & Deaths

DEATHS

BOTTRALL: On 21 March, Margaret, died peacefully at Edward House, Cambridge, aged 86, Much loved and deeply missed. Requirem Mass at Little 8t Mary & Church, Cambridge, on Tuesday 2 April, at 2pm, followed by cremation.

OUFFIT Lines Patrick, Passed away at St. James, Hospital, Leeds, on 20 March, aged 74. Belowed fuschand of Anne, dearly loved father of Tomas and a dear grandfather, Conege will leave home on Wednesday 27 March terve nome on wednesday 37 March at L.Dyn for serve we and cremation at Lawnswood Crematorium at L.Mipin. Flowers may be sent to the Private Chapels of Wim Dodgson and Son, Lupton Avenue, Leeds LS9 6FO

Additional Strategies and Additional Strategies (Control of Control of Contro MARRIAGES & DEATHS (Births, Adoptions, Marriages, Deaths, Memo-rial services, Wedding anniversaries, in Memoriams should be sent in writing to the Gazette Editor. The Independen 1 Canada Square, Canary Wharf, Lon-don E14 SDL, relephoned in 0171-293 2011 or faxed to 0171-293 2010, and are charged at £6.50 a line (VAT extra), OTHER Gazette announcements inn-tices, functions, Fortherming marrices, inactions, rormenting mar-riages, Marriages) must be submitted in writing for fased) and are charged at fill a line, VAT extra. Please include a daytime telephone number.

Changing of the Guard Changing in the Cuard TODA: The Household Cavalry Mount-ed Regiment means the Queen's Life Geard at Horse Quards, Harn, TO-MORROW: The Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment mounts the Queen's Life Guard at Horse Guards, Warn, Ist Bottalien Irah Guards meants the Queen's Guard, at Buckingham Palace, 11 Stant, Sould proceed by the Greenadier Guards. Forthcoming marriages

Mr S. Dercon and Miss P. Krishnan

The engagement is announced between Pramila Krishnan, of Bangalore, India, and Sietan Dercon, of Leuven, Belgium.

Birthdays

TODAY: Professor Harry Allen. Emeritus Professor of American Studies, University of East Anglia, 79; Mr Mike Atherton, cricketer, 28; Mr Norman Bailey, baritone, 63; Sir Roger Bannister, neurologist and former Master of Pembroke College. Ostord, 67: Mr Wasim Bari, former Pakistan eneketer, 48; Mr Bryan Bass, former Headmaster, City of London School, 62: Mr Alan Bleasdale, playwright, 50; Mr Geuffrey Bush, composer, 76; Mr Geoffrey Chitton-Brown MP, 43: Mr Barry Cryer, writer and comedian, 61: Protesor Patrick Dowling, Vice-Chancellor, Surrey University, 57: Mrs Rosalind Gilmore, former chairman. Building Societies Commission and chief Registrar of Friendly Societies, 59; Mr Peter Godfrey, former semor parmer, Ernst and Whinney. 72: Professor Kenneth Gregory, Warden, Goldsmith's College, London, 58: Mr Akira Kurosawa, film director, 86; Sir Geoffrey Leigh, chairman. Allied London Properties, 63: Sir David McNee, former Commission-er, the Metropolitan Police, 71; Mr Michael Manser, architect, 67; Mr Andrew Miller MP, 47: Mr Andrew Milchell MP, 40: Mr Alfred Morris MP. 68; Mr Michael Nyman, composer, 52; Sir Ralph Perring, former Lord Mayor of London, 91; Sir Desmond Pitcher, chairman, North West Water Group, 61; Mr John Rowe QC, a Recorder of the Crown Court, (4); Miss Cindy Shelley, actress.

36: Mr Oliver Sherwood, racehorse

trainer, 41; Sir tan Todd, consulting surgeon, St Bartholomew's Hospital, 75; Sir Edward Warner, former diplomal 85; Sir Denis Wright, former diplomat, 85. TOMORROW: Air Chief Marshal

> MP, So: Mr Roy Berridge, lormer chairman, South of Scotland Electricity Board, 74: Miss Barbara Daly, make-up artist, 51; Dame Jane Drew, architect, 85; Mr Robert Fox, theatrical producer, 44: Mr James Fox-Andrews QC, former circuit judge, 74: Mr Archie Gemmill, footballer. 49: Mr Richard Gierdano, chairman. British Gas. 62: Mr Wilson Harris. novelist, 75: Mr Basharat Hassan, cricket umpire, 52: Professor John Hedgecoe. Emeritus Professor of Photography, Royal College of Art 59; Mr David Jewell, Master, Haileybury College, 62; Sir John Kendrew, former President, St John's College, Oxford, 79; Miss Some Lannaman, athlete, 40; Sir Peter Leslie, former chairman, Commonwealth Development Corporation. 65: Mr Benjamin Luxon, bartione, 59; Mr Patrick Malahide, actor, 51; Sir Peter Meinertzhagett, tormer general manager, Commonwealth Develop-ment Corporation, 76; Mr Gene Nelson, dancer, actor and director. 76; Miss Suzanne Norwood, Jormer circuit judge, 70: Professor Dorothy Sevenin, Gilmour Professor of Spanish, Liverpool University, 54; Mr Alan-Sugar, en.arman of Amstrad, 49; Protessor Harry Whittington, geologist, 80: Mr Peter Winfield, former senior

Anniversaries

partner. Healey and Baker, 69.

TODAY: Births: Roger Martin du Gurd, novelist and playwright, 1881; Joan Crawford (Lucifle Le Suear). actress, 1904; Donald Malcolm Campbell, land and water speed

hal (Marie Henri Beyle), novelist, 1842: Raoul Dufy, painter and de-signer, 1953; Peter Lorre (Laszlo Lowenstein), actor, 1964. On this day: the marriage of Catherine of Aragon to King Henry VIII was declared valid by the Pope, although in 1933 he had married Anne Boleyn. 534: Adolf Hitler became dictator of Germany, 1933; the Archbishop of Canterbury visited Rome and met the Pope, the first official meeting between the two churches for 400 years, 1966. Today is the Feast Day of St Benedict the Hermit, St Ethelwald the Hermit, St Joseph Oriol St Turihius of Luna and St Victorian. TOMORROW: Births: William Morris, socialist, artist, poet and typog-rapher. 1834: Terrence Steven

(Sieve) McQueen, actor, 1930. Deaths: Queen Elizabeth I, 1603: Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, poet, 1882: Jules Verne, novelist. 1905: John Millington Synge, playwright. 1909: Cristobal Balenciaga, conturier. 1972, Field Marshal Bernard Law Montgomery, first Viscount Montgomery of Alamein, 1976: Ernest Howard Shepard, artist and illustrator, 1976. On this days after King James (James I of England James VI of Scotland) ascended the throne of England, the English and Scottish crowns were united, 1603; the University Boat Race between Oxford and Cambridge ended in a dead heat, 1877; the national loaf was introduced into Britain, 1942. Today is the Feast Day of St Aldemar, St Catharine of Vadstena, St Irenaeus of Sirmium, St Simon of Trent and William of Norwich.

Lectures

TODAY National Portrait Gallery: Valerie Holman, "Modernism and Inherited Traditions in 20th-century Por

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"He wants his children to have a proper holiday,

even though he won't be there to see it."

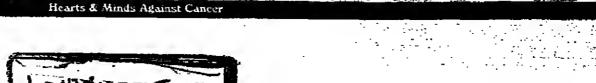
Nursing someone who's going through the final stages of cancer can take more than professional skills. A Marie Curie Nurse could even be asked to help plan a holiday for a patient's young family.

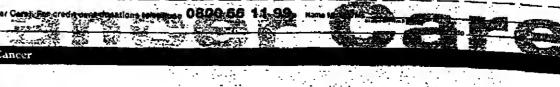
Last year we cared for well over 20,000 cancer patients in their own homes - providing more than one million hours of patient care.

We also have eleven Hospice Centres across the UK, the world renowned Marie Curie Research Institute education and training in cancer care for doctors, nurses and paramedics. and education and training in cancer care for doctors, nurses and paramedics.

No charge is ever made to our patients, or their families. We depend heavily on voluntary contributions.

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Market Report: WH Smith climbs on Our Price sale prospect 25

BUSINESS NEWS DESK: tel 0171-293 2530 fax 0171-293 2098

Oftel turns its fire on BSkyB cable terms

and MATHEW HORSMAN

Don Cruickshank, the telecoms regulator, is gunning for Rupert Murdoch, in a bid to break the media baron's near monopoly

on pay-TV programming. In a 60-page submission to the Office of Fair Trading, which is investigating Mr Murdoch's BSkyB. Mr Cruickshank's Oftel has lashed out at the terms on which the satellite broadcaster makes its pay-TV programmes - including the popular Sky

able to cable companies.

The intervention by Oftel, the telecommunications regulator, will increase tension with the Independent Television Commission, the television watchdog. But Oftel argues that it has a right to be concerned over the future of the cable industry, which is the major competitor to

BT in local telephone services. BSkyB currently dictates the terms on which it makes its channels available to the cable industry. Specifically, operators

can only receive significant dis- criminatory pricing, based on therefore is threatening the the submission as an attempt to The price is fixed as a percentage of the retail price which BSkyB charges its direct-to-home satellite subscribers.

Oftel regards both practices as unacceptable and anni-competitive. Mr Cruickshank is thought to be adamant that all BSKyB programming be unbundled, giving cable operators freedom to pick and choose among them.

counts on programming if they clear, separate accounts for the prospects for competition in accept "bundles" of channels. various parts of BSkyB's husivarious parts of BSkyB's husinesses. This reflects the approach used by Mr Cruickshank in his dealines with BT. The Of-tel submission says that accounting separation is a key

> should be a central part of any undertakings. There are good grounds for considering thal [BSkyB]'s pricing and other practices are tending to hold back the devel-

Top jobs controversy: Fresh criticism for Sir Richard Sykes as NatWest banker's rewards overtake his chief executive's

safeguard against abuse, and

ong term."

Oftet's chief concern is that

this will in turn hold back the cable industry's ability to market its cable services and thereby reduce its attractiveness to potential telephone customers.

Cable operators could find themselves "between a rock and a hard place", with Sky on one side and BT on the other. The ITC is believed to be wary op of the cable companies and of Oftel's intervention, and sees

poach its territory. Under the current recime, the ITC and Oftel are meant co-operate in key areas, including conditional access, the technical term for the scrambling and unscrambling of TV signals used by pay-TV

But it is increasingly obvious that the ITC regards Oftel as a rival rather than a partner in overseeing a rapidly evolving industry, where the old distinctions between broadcasting and tele-

received by the OFT, whose diman, launched the inquiry ministers. It is not yet clear

rector-general. John Bridgeearlier this year its conclusions are expected by the end of June. It may recommendation a reference to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission, but the ultimate decision lies with whether the OFT views the pay-TV market as separate from the overall broadcasting market. a distinction that could dictate

the outcome of the inquiry.

Post Office in pensions amnesty

PETER RODGERS

The Post Office has offered 11,000 employees the right to opt hack into its pension for members who quit to take out personal pensions.

The offer to non-members who include some who refused to join the £10.5bn scheme when they arrived at the Post Office, runs to the end of June. Only a handful of public

sector employers have made arrangements to readmit pension scheme members who left. as a result of the personal pensions mis-selling scandal. which came to light more than two years ago.

Members of schemes such as the mineworkers, the teachers, the nurses and the Post Office were tempted by hard selling to drop the often substantial benefits of their corporate schemes and take up personal pensions that offered less security and lower pensions.

The Securities and Invest-

Orange s

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ments Board stepped in when the scale of the problem came to light, and pension providers. are expected to pay substantial damages to customers who were sold the wrong policies. But so far no cases have reached court and no compensation has been paid. The Post Office said the amnesty gives our people a sec-

ond chance if they feel they made a mistake, perhaps after being targeted by personal pension sales teams. Many responded immediately to our of-fer and more are following as they calculate the benefits."

Under the rules of the scheme, many of the 11.000 employees are prevented from rejoining by age or time fimits, but the Post Office said the present circumstances were un-

A survey by the Post Office found that four out of five of its employees who opted out of the scheme did so to take out personal pensions, but the majority regretted it and now wanted to change their minds and get back in.

never joined the company scheme also wanted a second chance to become members. Although the 11,000 will be able to regain the benefits of the Post Office's generous state did not take part in the buyback sector scheme, they will not be able to replace the benefits lost during their period outside the scheme, except by suing the personal pension providers for compensation.

Among the other state employees hit by the scandal, the Home Office has agreed to amend legislation that prevents the 400 police the left their pension schedule

Glaxo chief's pay and bonuses soar to £2.15m

MAGNUS GRIMONO and JOHN EISENHAMMER

Glazo Wellcome's chief executive. Sir Richard Sykes, looks set to spark a new controversy over executive salaries after it emerged that his total emoluments soured to £2.15m in 1995. making him one of the best paid directors in Britain. The news came as it was revealed that Martin Owen, head of Nat West Markets, received a 26 per cent pay rise to £617,000 last year. overtaking his boss, chief executive Derek Wanless.

The payment to Sir Richard covers a year when the giant drugs group announced 7.500 redundancies in the aftermath of its £9.3bn merger with rivals

It comes just as senior management are set to move to a new incentive scheme inspired by the Greenbury report last year on executive pay which could not them over £20m in the next three years.

Sir Richard's pay last year compares with a redundancy

which a 45-year-old worker with 20 years service could have expected to receive after the closure of Wellcome's Beckenham research centre in Kent last year.

Paul Talhot, national officer of the MSF union, which represents workers at Glaxo Wellcome, said: "This is just disgraceful in view of the number of people who have lost their jobs in the last 12 months. That's not justifiable." Most of recent controversial

increases in executive pay were in the privatised utilities. But after a 42 per cent rise this week in the renuneration package of Sir Ronald Hampel, chairman of ICI and of the new corporate governance committee that is to follow up the Greenbury work, there are concerns that the issue of rising pay at the top may spread to other companies

to the end of December, re-

payment of less than £60,000 increase on the £931,000 he was paid for the 12 months to June 1994, even when account is taken of the extended accounting period.
But the company defended

the payment yesterday, citing the distortions caused by the changed year end and extra payments made to buy out a former incentive scheme. A spokesman said: "Our view

is that salaries are competitive and appropriate, given the company's size and complexity and its place in the international pharmaceuticals market. The new [incentive] schemes provide demanding targets. Sir Richard's basic annual

salary went up from £700,000 to £800,000 last year, which came out at £1.125m for the 18 months. On top of that, he picked up a performance bonus of £212,000 relating to the 1993-94 financial year, which was paid The latest figure for Sir in the latest period due to the Richard covers the 18 months changed year end, and £41,000 in other benefits. He received a flecting a changed year end, but further £770,000 to buy out the still represents a considerable old incentive scheme, known as



Eye of the storm: Sir Richard Sykes has drawn criticism from unions, who compare his salary with redundancy payments

The new incentive schemes involve an annual element and a long-term plan. Essentially directors can collect up to 200 per cent of their salaries in shares

the performance unit plan or sonal and corporate performance targets are met.

In Sir Richard's case, this could be close to £5m over the three year period in which, amongst other things, the company must rank amongst the top 10 companies in

top investment bankers was underlined yesterday with the publication of the £617,000 total remuneration paid to Mar-

tin Owen, the chief executive of NatWest Markets. He carned more than his boss, Derek Wan- crease on the previous year.

Meanwhile, the premium for less, the chief executive of the whole NatWest Group. According to NatWest's an

qual report and accounts for 1995, Mr Wanless had a total remuneration package of £595,000, a 19 per cent in

£400m buyback to boost Guinness earnings

TOM STEVENSON

A day after disappointing investors by failing to come up with a scheme to return cash to shareholders. Guinness moved into the market vesterday to buy 100 million shares at 463p. The ed on Guinness's behalf by move was welcomed by analysts who expect it to be marginally carnings enhancing this year. Guinness chairman Tony Greener said: "We are clear that our strategy, growing brands of Clear strategy: Guinness alcoholic drink around the

is reinvestment for growth in our existing business. Financial resource, where not required in the business, will be returned to shareholders in the most efficient manner.

The share buyback, conduct-Cazenove, followed the announcement on Thursday of disappointing full year figures dragged down by lower profits in the company's United Dis-

ganic one. Our principal focus struggle to overcome depressed economies around the world. While profits were flat, however, cash flow remained strong during the year with net debt at

the Johnnie Walker to Guinness

stout group falling by almost Guinness also managed an 8 per cent rise in the dividend pay-

out which has increased by 38 per cent over the past four years, compared with an average rise of 28 per cent for FTSE100 companies and an inalcoholic drink around the world, remains essentially an ormarketing. Guinness had to od of only 12 per cent. flation rate over the same peri-

it rating agency, confirmed its previous double A minus debt rating for Guinness, saying the move did not depart from "Guinness's historically moderate financial policies.

A return of some value to shareholders had been expected since last year's annual meeting when Guinness received approval from its shareholders to buy back up to 200 million shares, representing 10 per cent of its equity.

They are setting an example that other companies should year from 28-23 per cent.

Standard & Poor's, the cred-follow", Panmure Gordon analvst Colin Humphreys said When you have fairly mature husinesses that aren't really growing but generate lots of cash, you should return money to shareholders."

Guinness shares edged 4.5p higher to 465p as analysts factored in earnings enhancement in a full year of about 1.7 per cent. The deal is expected to increase gearing to 33-35 per cent by the end of the year, compared with expectations that gearing would fall during the

nouncing its own results on Thursday, the French company said it had no intention of reducing its holding. Guinness said that under UK tax law, 325p of the cost of buying each share would be counted as a distribution. Tax exempt shareholders would therefore be

·LVMH, the French loxory

goods and spirits business which

owned 20 per cent of Guinness.

and its stake rose by one per-

centage point as a result. An-

eligible for a tax credit worth 81p

British Aerospace's plan to run

a second commercial airport for Bristol has been refused by the Environment Secretary John

The refusal leaves a question mark over the future of BAe's north Bristol Filton site, former home production base of Concorde and now a major facility for the European Airbus. The aircraft company had

said that its proposal for a business airport using Filton's run-way - one of the longest in Europe - was vital in securing the jobs of 3,700 employees. Income from the airport would have reduced the £1.5m annual operating deficit of the field.

Mr Gummer announced his in Bristol today. It follows weeks of speculation on the plan to nval the municipally-owned Lulsgate Airport for business traffic.

Mr Gummer said that he was accepting the recommendation month public inquiry into the proposal last year.

Mr. Guerral in the region and the capacity of existing airport facilities, he said/ for dismissal by Ms Jean Brush-

Mr Gummer said: "1 recognise that this decision, while welcome to many local residents, will disappoint others, particularly local businesses. But the decision ends a substantial period of uncertainty about future air

Bay's change (No. 1995/96 High 1995/96 Low Field(N)

decision at a business seminar airport at Lulsgate with the opportunity to develop its ser vices and the new terminal which was granted planning consent last year."

The government will now commission a study of future demand for air travel in the region

involved converting an existing building to a business terminal. The company had hoped for around 23,000 aircraft movements a year, including 6,000 at night - mainly business and freight traffic to UK and Continental destinations.

oney Market Rates

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Gummer rejects BAe's | National Express in front | Profits plunge at plan for Bristol airport for Gatwick rail franchise Wilson Connolly

CHRISTIAN WOLMAR Transport Correspondent

National Express, the coach company, has emerged as the surprise preferred bidder for the Gatwick Express rail franchise. beating off bids from Virgin and the management buyout team which had linked in with British

Disappointed bidders for the Gatwick Express franchise were yesterday told of their failure to gain preferred bidder status and National Express has now entered a two-week sole nego-tiation period with the Office of Passenger Rail Franchising. There has been consternation

a result of OPRAF's refusal to publish any information about the process. He said: "If OPRAF published the shortlist of hidders, and then announced its decision as soon as it was made, we would not have these problems." There have been two surges in National Express's share price over the past 10 days. suggesting that knowledge of its success leaked out.

in the City over the leaky nature

of the bidding process. One in-sider said that this was partly as

The company is also the favourite to win the Midland Main Line franchise, but there are now doubts over whether Roger Salmon, the franchising

company to be awarded two franchises. Mr Salmon is, however, facing a dilemma over the paucity of bidders shortlisted for the second tranche of four lines which are currently at the final

Sea Containers is known to be the sole preferred bidder for the East Coast Main Line, and Compagnie Generale des Eaux is in the final stages of negotiation to take over Network SouthCentral. With management buyout

teams now out of favour, Mr Salmon may have little choice National Express.

dire state of the house-building market last year with a phinge in sales and profits from its mass market housing operation; which sells three and four-bedroom houses for about £60,000. writes Tom Stevenson. The fall in profits from £38.2m to £22.5m was well below expectations in the City and the shares tumbled 12p to 162p. Lynn Wilson, chairman, said:

Wilson Connolly confirmed the

"The recovery in the housing market since 1992 gave hope that the worst of the recession was over. Sadly 1995 was yet another false dawn: continuing job insecurity, reductions in mortgage tax relief and the lack of which recently decided to pul fiscal support for the housing out of new housebuilding alto market have all impacted on tragile consumer confidence."

Turnover at the Midlands pased housebuilder collapsed from £316m to £245m as the number of completions fell to 3,870 from 1994's 4,200. Analysts had been expecting a maintained level of completions last had difficulties getting planning consent for enough sites following a tightening of the plan-

In order to push sales, and cause the group continued to chew the incentives of housebuilders increasingly to tempt buyers, the group forced to cut prices. The aver age selling price actually rose from £58,000 to £59,600, but only because there was an increase in the number of higher priced three and four bedroom

houses in the sales mix.
The gloomy news from Wil son Connolly, one of the industry's more highly regarded ng announcements from other builders including Beazer, earlier this week, and Tarmas out of new housebuilding alto gether, swapping its assets for Wimpey's construction and minerals operations.

According to Wilson, the changes in the structure of the housing market in recent years are unparalleled for several decades: "The metamorphosis cannot be measured on an anyear, but the company said it mual basis but will result in a small group of highly professional housing developers, of which we shall be a part."

Investment column, page 24-9)

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 Futures: Traded options that won't break the bank Insurance: The demise of 'knock for knock'

 Council tax: Getting the right valuation: Share dealing: On the Crest of a wave.





The rights and wrongs of each case must be judged individually, but the cumulative effect of the headlines is likely to be serious stuff for the Government in the run-up to the election

Fat cats stalk Britain's boardrooms again the US as the stock market is. Business Wirek

this month chronicled how greed in the boardroom was laking off again, just in time to be an awkward issue for the pro-business Republicans as presidential elections

The same thing seems to be happening in Britain. Disclosures so far in the current reporting season suggest another executive pay scandal in the making. Embarrassment in the boardroom at the political and shareholder impact of last year's fat cat scandals seems to have had little impact. This week we have had BP paying out a cool quarter million to Bob Horton, the former chairman who left in 1992, while Commercial Union set a hrisk pace in the insurance industry with a 26 per cent rise for John Carter, its chief executive. Then there has been the illtimed verdict of ICI's remuneration committee, which approved a 42 per cent pay rise for Sir Ronald Hampel, chairman of the Cadbury Committee Mark II on corporate governance. Sir Ronald will be reviewing the operation of the Greenbury rules on executive pay, presumably in favour of those who

To cap it all, we now have the £2.1m pay package over 18 months of Sir Richard Sykes, chief executive of Glaxo, accompanied by a juicy performance scheme that could eventually pay out millions more.

These are the sort of rewards that should go

These are the sort of rewards that should go

These are the sort of rewards that should go

These are the sort of rewards that should go

These are the sort of rewards that should go

These are the sort of rewards that should go

These are the sort of rewards that should go

Executive pay in Britain seems as inex-tricably linked to what is happening in essentially managers. In Sir Richard's case. it surely would have been right to have awaited the success or otherwise of the Wellcome merger before paying out such wealth.

The rights and wrongs of each case must be judged individually, but the cumulative effect of the headlines is likely to be serious stuff for the Government in the run up lo

Fresh voices raised against Mr Murdoch

Regulation seems to have become about the only growth industry in Britain. If there's a problem, regulate it, is the general rule. With so many growing empires jostling for position, it is hardly surprising

they should start to tread on each other's toes. The latest to do so is Don Cruickshank. the telecoms regulator. Now he's trying to gain jurisdiction over Rupert Murdoch. whose interests, though they stretch far and wide, do not yet include telephones. He wants Mr Murdoch's BSkyB to alter the terms on which it supplies the cable indus-try with pay-TV channels, and has so recommended to the Office of Fair Trading. which is investigating the issue.

Mr Murdoch has seen off the US House

has spent the last few years honing his combat skills on the mighty BT, forcing prices down and encouraging the competition to flourish. Most recently, he has sought sweeping new powers against anti-competition

practices in the telecommunications market.

That, it seems, is not enough to keep him occupied. He now wants to take on Mr Murdoch's stranglehuld on the pay-TV market, which in Mr Cruickshank's view is theatening the health of the cable telephony husiness. His solutions are based on the same, interventionist approach he has perfected in his dealings with BT.

Of course, he has no power to impose his remedies on the pay-TV market, but his hard-hitting recommendations to the OFT could nevertheless help set the agenda for change. Not everyone appreciates his zeal for reform. Just ask the Independent Tele-vision Commission. But given how little has heen done to date to rein in Mr Murdoch. maybe we should be listening to some fresh. and tough, voices.

The right strategy for Guinness

The instinctive reaction to share buybacks is to question what managements are being paid for if it is not to think of ways to invest the cash their companies generate. If

achieved with a huge marketing push, then it could be argued that £460m would be better spent backing Johnnie Walker, Gordon's and the famous black stuff than giving shareholders an Easter bonus.

Like most knee-jerk reactions, this one is probably wrong. There is a limit to how much can sensibly be spent on promotion and at £500m last year, with a promised douhie digit increase this time, Guinness is close to the point at which it starts throwing money at campaigns just because they are there and not because they are likely to generate a decent pay-back. The Cruzcampo debacle is a salutary reminder of what can happen when cash is spent in haste.

Buying back only half the number of shares for which it gained permission at last year's annual meeting is a sensible compromise, leaving the door ajar on the two most widely rumoured corporate deals; acquiring the two-thirds of Moet Hennessy it does not yet own or, less likely, a tilt at struggling Allied Domecq's spirits arm. For the time being buybacks also remain a highly tax-effective way of delivering value to to big, gross fund shareholders.

Tony Greener, the chairman, has been

reaching the current stockmarket mantra of focus for some time now, so it should come as no surprise that he sees his joh as growing the core husiness as fast as he seninvest the cash their companies generate. If | sihly can and handing any cash he can't use | The markets looked at the bottom line - and Guinness has accepted, as it appears to have | to that end back to its owners. Clearly this | probably got their judgement about right.

Mr Cruickshank may be another matter. He | done, that building brands can only be | does not produce fireworks in the share price, but while the world market for spirits and beer remains so dull, it's probably the is and occi remains so dull, it's probably the right strategy. Bernard Arnault of LVMH. Guinness's biggest shareholder, may not necessarily agree but then he has a rather different different agenda; eventual control of Guinness's liquor interests.

Expect a hiccup from the mad cow scare

The pound lost half a pfennig and gilts fell I by nearly a point yesterday. An over-re-action to the mad cow scare? The City's instant analysis focussed on the worst case -all 11m cattle slaughtered, the dairy industry destroyed and no substitution for beef by other British meats. This nightmare scenario is unlikely, but a hiccup in the economy seems

the very least we can expect.

It is impossible to quantify the likely effects until scientists can say how many people imight fall ill, until the Government reaches a decision about how many cattle must be slaughtered, until the extent of bans overseas is known - and until British consumers decide whether to abandon beef altogether. The one thing that is certain is that the Public Sector Borrowing Requirement will be higher, by anything between hundreds of millions and billions of pounds. The markets looked at the bottom line - and

Orange set for £2.45bn valuation on float day

Industrial Correspondent

Shares in Orange, the mobile telephony company due for flotation next week, are expected to be priced at the top of the range of 175p to 205p. valuing the company at £2.45bn. The final decision will be announced on Wednesday morning with dealings heginning later that day.

Demand from institutions has exceeded expectations, with applications in for eight times the number of shares available. More than 135,000 prospectuses have been sent on customers, although no incentives are heing offered to participate in the sale. The retail offer to institutions running until Monday evening.

Orange, the newest of the four mobile telephone network companies, is owned by Hutchison Whampoa of Hong Kong and British Aerospace. Following the sale of 25 per cent of the shares, Hutchison will

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own 50.49 per cent of Orange and BAe 22.92 per cent. Orange refuses to say when

it will be in profit, but City analysts expect it to hreak even next year. The proceeds from the sale are likely to be used to repay deht to sharehiders.

Orange has been credited with raising public awareness of mohile telephony with pricing packages aimed at the average person rather than company executives. The company pioneered the notion of bundling a number of "free" call minutes in return for a set monthly charge. It also offers the ability to have two "lines" on one request to small private in- telephone so that some cusvestors, many of them Orange tomers can use one for business

Orange has a tiny market share with 443,000 subscribers offer closed last night with the at the end of last month compared with almost 25 million for Vodafone, the leading player, and a similar number for Cellnet. However the company points out that its entire network is digital - which is where the industry's future growth lies. Vodafone now has 500,000 digital subscribers with the re-

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Mobile contender: Hans Snook, Orange's group managing director, says the company is determined to compete on quality and value as well as on price

boost earlier this year when the Government opened the way for further expansion of the mohile telephone industry by making available to all four existing operators more capacity on the airwaves. The limited spectrum available makes it increasingly unlikely that a lifth company will be licensed to compete in the mobile market place. Unlike the other newcomer.

which are poised to introduce similar types of hundled tariff packages for the consumer market. However in spite of what appears to be an emerging price war. Orange denies that it will need to drop its charges in re-sponse to the challenge from the major players. Hans Snook, Orange's group managing director, said the company would not be forced into competing primar-

mainder still using the older national one n will nevertheless he forced into the lines for 5p per minute. The low-cost deal will be in ex-

increasingly innovative pricing as competition continues to bite. Recently the company announced a service which allows customers with two lines on their mobile to make unlimited calls at weekends on one of

change for an extra monthly fee of £2.50.

IN BRIEF

 House sales in England and Wales dropped 5.000 to 92.000 last month, according to Inland Revenue figures. The figures raised a question mark over widespread predictions of a recovery in the housing market this year. But City analysts dismissed them as a blip on an upward trend. In both November and December, there were 89,000 sales, according to the seasonally adjusted Inland Revenue data, climbing to 97,000 in January.

 General Motors said yesterday that 26 of its 29 North American assembly plants remain shut down and 177,775 workers are still idle, despite a tentative agreement reached yesterday with the United Auto Workers in the strike at two brake plants in Day-ton, Ohio. Analysts expected the union to ratify the deal and GM said it would make no further comment until the vote was known. Analysts expect it will take about a week for GM to return to full production if the deal is approved, after parts shortages closed down the carmaker's entire U.S. operations in the 17-day strike.

 General Electric's subsidiary GE Engine Services has won a 10-year contract from British Airways worth \$2.3bn for engine overhaul and repairs, the company said yesterday. It said the work will be carried out at its Nantgarw. Wales plant, and engines to be repaired include Rolls-Royce RB211s and Pratt & Whitney JTS and JT9 engines.

 French and US diplomats played down a looming battle over transatlantic air travel rights yesterday but their posturing showed a new aggressive edge in the ties between old yet often prickly allies. France disclosed that its civil aviation authority was readying reprisals against seven US airlines following Washington's decision to block an increase in Air France's summer service to the United States. The French step followed Washington's rejection on Thursday of Air France's request to add 500 flights, representing 176,000 plane seats, flying from Paris to New York, Los Angeles, Houston and Washington for the peak summer holiday season.

 Fortnum & Mason, the Piccadilly fixed store, reported record interim profits, up 17 per cent at \$2.52m after sales romped ahead 10 per cent to £20.6m. The company said it enjoyed "highly satsfactory" pre-Christmas trade which was well ahead of expectations. Formums warned, however, that export sales would fall in the second half following an exceptionally strong second period last year. Earnings per share increased from 310p to 362p. The dividend remained at 80p.

 Yorkshire Foods shares rose sharply yesterday after the ingrediems and baking group announced a sharp increase in sales and opcrating profits along with bullish growth prospects. Sales increased by more than one-third and shares closed 7p higher at 82p.

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Gehe bid referred to UK **MAGNUS GRIMOND**

The European Commission vesterday referred scrutiny of the £650m hid by Gehe of Ger-many for Lloyds Chemists back to the UK authorities. The bid now looks certain to be sent before the Monopolies and Mergers Commission, which is already looking at an earlier offer from UniChem, a rival British chemists chain.

In a statement, Karel van Miert, the commissioner in charge of competition policy. Gehe-Lloyds and UniChem would have over twothirds of the wholesale market to independent chemists following a merger and the mar-ket share would be "significantly higher" in certain regions. They would be the only two wholesalers operating in the whole of the UK and supplying a full range of pharmazeutical products. Based on the information

currently available, regional wholesalers would appear unable to provide a sufficient competitive counterweight to the duopoly pair composed of Gene-Lloyds and UniChem." The Commission said the present concentration threatened to create a dominant position in the wholesale market. On top of that, it had identified a small number of areas where local pharmacies owned by Gehe in the UK would appear to have a monopoly and with increased vertical integration there was a danger of a dominant position in retailing also being created.

The Commission noted that referral would have the advantage of allowing both bids to be serutinised by the same authority.

Mortgage cash-backs will escape tax net

CLIFFORD GERMAN

The cash-backs borrowers receive on special mortgage deals are definitely not liable to capital gains tax, nor are customer rebates on the list price of cars, the Inland Revenue admitted this week after taking

advice from its lawyers.

Any taxpayers who have heen charged CGT on their cashhacks should contact their tax office to establish how the assessment and any appeal will be dealt with.

Tax accountants welcomed the change of heart, but Chris Williams, tax specialist at accountants Pannell Kerr Forster complained yesterday that the timing of the announcement left investors very little time to make use of the concession by selling other assets to make full use of their annual allowance of £6,000 worth of tax-free capital gains before the end of the

The Revenue will shortly publish guidance on circumstances where cashhacks could be liable to income tax, but this

huilding society borrowers many thousands of whom have received cashbacks in the last 12-18 months.

The Inland Revenue has also clarified the tax treatceive for approving mergers, takeovers and conversions of their societies from mutual to banking status. Members who receive a cash bonus for approving the merger of two the shares are sold. huilding societies which re- Pannell Kerr Forster bemain mutuals do have to pay income tax on the windfall.

merged with the Northern Rock 18 months ago. The Inland Revenue admitted however that there is no mecha-

is more likely to apply to cash- bank, or is taken over by a bank hacks received by motor or some other non-mutual or-traders. It is unlikely to affect ganisation however, the cash and/or shares members receive as a result will be regarded as capital gains not income.

Even cash payments will be regarded as a capital gain, and ment of windfall payments will not be liable to income tax-building society members re- Shares received as part of a Shares received as part of a conversion or takeover will become potentially liable to capital gains tax but only if the. proceeds exceed the tax-exempt allowance if and when

lieves the Inland Revenue can still be challenged on its rul-The last such payment was ling however. Investors are ad-to members of the North of vised to declare such payments England BS when it was on their tax forms, and then challenge any tax which is charged against them.

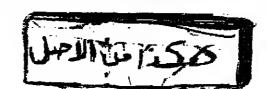
The Inland Revenue's latest ruling made no mention at all nism for requiring societies to of the loyalty bonuses recent-deduct tax at source before by awarded to members by the making the payments, and in- Britannia Building Society for vestors are expected to declare remaining loyal to a society the bonuses voluntarily: which does not plan to merge :
If a society converts into a or convert.

BRANCH INVESTMENT ACCOUNTS CURRENT INTEREST RATES

EFFECTIVE FROM 23 MARCH 1996

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NORTHERN ROCK



business

THE INVESTMENT COLUMN Edited by TOM STEVENSON

Wilson Connolly: at a glance

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Share price

Wilson Connolly still overrated

in this column at the generous treatment of house-builder Wilson Connolly's share price after a disappointing able, an important distinction because set of interim figures. Since then, despite a continued deterioration in the

housing market, the shares have nudged curiously higher, so yesterday's 7 per cent fall from 174p to 162.5p, after even worse full-year numbers, was

Wilson Connolly is proof positive of the lethargy of investors, who will often continue supporting a company long after it has become evident that the investment story has changed. The company is still the well run outfit that impressed shareholders in the 1980s. but the environment in which it operates has changed out of all recognition.

Profits for the year to December at £22.5m represented a dramatic collapse from the £38.2m achieved in 1994. They were also well below already reduced expectations of nearer £20m. Earnings per share tumbled from 13.5p to 8.1p. leaving the maintained 4.54p dividend covered, it less than generously.

As the company freely admits 1995

was a talse dawn. The problems persuading house-buyers to part with their eash were also exacerbated by a tightening of the planning process which meant that analysts expectations of 4,200 completions during the year were hadly undershot at 3.870.

That had a double effect on profits because in order to boost flagging volumes, Wilson had to slash prices lower than it would otherwise have done. Lower volumes would be expected to reduce the net margin, through poor overhead recovery, but lower prices hit

the gross margin as well.

The bad news is that the outlook for price rises remains as bleak as ever. The bottom end of the market that Wilson occupies, with its three and four-hedroom houses selling for an average of less than £60,000, remains wickedly competitive. This is very much a huy-

House prices are cheaper than ever, say the huilders, trotting out the usu-

broker, they are merely more afford- market is still being over generous. Sell. cheapness is quickly rectified by an ef-licient market while affordability can persist for years.

One of the reasons Wilson's share price has remained as resilient as it has over the past year or so is the undoubted financial stability of the company. At the year end the balance sheet sported £33m of net cash.

If the recovery implied by this gloomy hackdrop is as gentle as many observers fear, however, then househuilders should be valued on a very different basis from that currently used by the market. And a p/e of 19 falling to 16, assuming profits of £25m this year and £30m next time, is much too high

Five year record

Dividends per share (pence)

by sector, £m

Operating profits

CONSTRUCTION

al price to wages ratios and low mori-gage cost arguments. Actually, says one idend yield of only 3.5 per cent. The

Still questions over McBride

The flotation of McBride, Europe's higgest maker of own-lahel detergents, has left a good deal of egg splat-tered over the new face of SBC Warhurg, the blue chip merchant bank which sponsored the issue. Floated at 188p last July, the shares are now languishing at 129p, up 5p yesterday, af-ter a catalogue of woes hit the company last year, forcing it to issue a profits warning in January.

hot and humid summer weather, which wreaked havoc in its soap powder plant in Cumbria, and rampaging raw malerial prices. McBride has taken action to sort out management in the Barrow and Middleion operations, where last year's difficulties were concentrated, and is set to take another 200 jobs out of the group in the second half, on top of 400 already slated to go over two years at Middleton. The cost of the extra redundancies will depress second half profits, but should bring benefits on top of the £4m annualised returns expect-

> way at Middleton. With raw materials either flat or falling, management is confident the worst is now over and has declared a maiden dividend of 2.25p, in line with the prospectus forecast. But plenty of questions continue to hang over

> ed from the shake-up already under-

new warning that second half profits

would be lower than last year, seemed to reflect relief that first half results

were no worse than already much re-

duced expectations. Pre-tax profits

slumped from £14.7m to £8m in the six

months to December, hit by the now

well publicised problems caused by the

It is not entirely clear that everthing that happened last year was due to bad luck. It transpires that the company was already having difficulty meeting demand for conventional powders produced by Barrow in May, well before the realisation dawned in July that the new super-concentrated delergents being made for Sainsbury and Safeway caused clogging in the machines. More seriously, it is now facing a new price war launched by Procter & Gamble, the Fairy Liquid to Ariel giant, which has been suffering market share erosion.

Next year is clearly going to remain competitive. Kleinwort Benson expects profits to recover to £21m this year, rising to £30m next. A 1996-97 multiple of 10 would appear to discount the worst, but this management has a lot to prove. Continue to avoid.

John Willcock CITY DIARY

No trains please, we're keeping to the track

Advisers to the Railtrack sell-off had a terrible time persuading the company to sanction advertising which used pictures of rail tracks without any trains on them. The directors apparently "went ballistic" when they heard of the plan to show rails without trains, but were queitly and firmly told that to show trains as well could be construed as misleading to investors. Does this mean advertising by the train operators should show trains not on tracks? In a meadow, per-

Richard Branson secretly smokes. We can exclusively reveal that a couple of weeks ago the Virgin boss cadged ciggies off journalists at an evening reception to launch Virgin Direct, the personal finance arm of Branson's ever-spreading empire.

Altogether four Silk Cut were "borrowed" off one journalist. The hearded entrepreneur made sure no photos were taken of him puffing, presumably to maintain his spotless image, It will be interesting to see what . rates he sets for smokers with his new life assurance prod-

"Burgered." Thats the state

Asda cleaned up on Valentine's Day last year by flogging its own-brand washing up liquid, "Passion Fruit", which bore the charming inscription: "Here's your bottle of bubbly with love". This wheeze stole brand leadership from Fairy liquid for a week in Asda stores, according to the company yesterday, as it revealed distinctly unbubbly interims.

hushands — an idea said to have come from Archie Norman, Asda's chief executive.



of the UK beef producing sector according to a note from James Capel yesterday. HSBC suffered a similar ontbreak of punitis with "more than a flash in the pan" and high steaks." Elsewhere in London over 1,300 "pan fried fillets of beef topped with celeriac and served in a red wine sauce" were unceremoniously binned at 2.30 in the

Organisers of the Finance

afternoon.

& Leasing Association annual dinner at the swish Grosvenor

The chain also came up with a Christmas version called "Winter Spice" – which was aimed at wives to buy for their

House Hotel replaced them with chicken at the last minute, "because we thought

people might be concerned" Eddie George, Governor of the Bank of Engaind, stunned the guests by cracking a funny joke: "There are three kinds of economist: those who can count and those who can't." Meanwhile the macho traders at Nikko Europe laughed in the face of death last night by decamping en masse to a burg-er bar. Where will it all end?

United Newspapers, which owns the Express titles, re-cently completed an efficiency survey which suggested that the journalists needed a dress code. The slovenly hacks should henceforward be clad in suits for men and pale . !blouses, dark skirts and tights for women, "Very square," said our in-house expert.

100 g

RJR Nabisco scotches settlement rumours

DAVID USBORNE

While Philip Morris published full-page newspaper advertise-ments refuting claims that it manipulates picotine levels in its cicarettes, its rival RJR Nabisco moved yesterday to play down suggestions that it might seek a global liability settlement to protect itself against future consumer lawsuits.

RJR Nahisco was reacting to remarks attributed to its chief executive officer, Steven Goldstone, published in yesterday's Financial Times, hinting that the company would consider some kind of general settlement and payment of compensation in return for immunity

ed that it remains determined to contest the legion of lawsuits now pending in the US against the industry. The company, it said. "has no intention of settling any of the litigation in which it is currently involved because it is confident it will those cases".

The cigarette makers were stunned when their ranks were broken last week by Bennett LeBow, owner of the Liggett Group, when he reached out-ofcourt settlements with two big groups suing the industry. In an interview with the Financial Times. Mr Goldstone said that the question was open, "whether there can be a way on an all-embracing basis to solve the problem once and

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from any future lawsuits. In a for all. I don't know of a way, but statement, RJR Nabisco insist- 1 do know that it isn't the kind of I do know that it isn't the kind of thing that the tobacco industry would try to obstruct, because we know that litigation is not good for our companies".

In its advertising blitz, Philip Morris, meanwhile, was rei ine allegations o three of its former scientists made public on Monday by the Food and Drug Administration. in which they contended that the company had systematically regulated the levels of nicotine in their eigarette products. The company, which makes the Mariboro brand, plastered newspaper pages with the headline: "What does Philip Morris have to say about the allegation of nicotine manipulation? Plenty."

£60m bids unveiled by GWR MATHEW HORSMAN

Media Editor

GWR, the fast-growing regional radio company, yesterday launched a £24.3m recommended bid for East Anglian plying to the New Zcaland government to huy 75 per cent of Radio New Zealand for a price not to exceed £37.9m. The balance would he held by

New Zealand fmancial institutions, the company said. To help finance the two bids.

GWR is launching a rights issue to raise as much as £36m. It has already received acceptances representing 63.8 per cent of East Anglian, the company said in a slatement yesterday.

The company's shares

dropped 5p to 246p, on news of the rights issue. GWR is offering 10.5541 shares for each East Anglian Radio share, worth £25,50 a share. There is a cash alternative of £23,46 per share. Last year, GWR fought hard to win Chiltern Radio, a competing commercial radio company. It confirmed early this year

it would expand aggressively. both in the UK and overseas. Radio is the fastest growing advertising medium in the UK. according to industry figures. Last year, total advertising revenues grew to £270m, from £220m a year earlier. Audience figures have also moved sharply higher in recent years, overtaking BBC Radio early in 1995.

This robust performance has already led to significant consolidation, as bigger groups such as GWR move in on the competition. The Broadcasting Bill is expected to ignite a further wave of takeovers, once national newspapers are allowed to own radio licences outright.

In Brief

 BTR, the diversified industrial group at which Ian Strachan recently took over from Alan Jackson as chief executive, said yesterday it is planning to withdraw from Taiwan. The company is seeking prospective buyers for its holding in China General Group, which in turn has investments in five Taiwanese companies. BTR has reportedly failed to reach targeted earnings in the Far East largely dur to problems at its Taiwanese operations.

 Avonside, the building group, reported a £5.2m loss for 1995, hit by property write-downs and re-organisation costs. The group, which made a £5.5m profit in 1994, said it was not confid West heartland with prices expected to remain under pressure. The final dividend was axed, leaving shareholders with the Ip interim payout, compared to last year's total dividend of 4.4p.

 CE Heath, the insurance broker, yesterday confirmed the demerger of its computer services division Rebus Group which will be seperately listed on the London Slock Exchange. Each CE Heath shareholder will receive one Rebus Share for each CE Heath share held on 9 April 1996. CE Heath will continue to be listed following the demerger. In order to provide the demerged com-pany with capital, CE Heath will subscribe £4.5 m for up to a max-mum of 7.158 million Rebus shares, equating to a maximum of 9.5 per cent of the enlarged share capital of Rehus.

 Wates City of London exchanged contracts yesterday on the previously flagged acquisition of Brittanic Tower from BP. The consideration is in two parts - an upfront payment of £30m folowed by a second instalment which depends on the outcome of Wates's proposed development of the City site. Britannic Tower is the second tallest office building in the City of London with 300,000 square feet of space above ground on a site of over 100,000 square feet. Wates has a range of plans for the site, including shop ping, entertainment, eating and leisure facilities.

 British Airways has awarded a 10-contract worth \$2.3hn to General Electric of the US for engine overhauls and repairs. GE said the work would be done at the Nantgarw plant in Wales belonging to its GE Engine Services subsidiary. Engines to he repaired include Rolls-Royce RB211s and Pratt & Whitney JT8 and JT9

Loudon International, the condom manufacturer, has appointed two new non executive directors. Roger Matthews is group finance director at Compass Group. The other director, Linda Collier, is a consultant and a former corporate finance director at Schroders.

Begin The	COMPANY RESULTS				
	Turnover £	Pre-tax £	EPS .	Dividend	
Avouside (F)	79.0m (83.5m)	-5.2m (5.5m)	-11.62р (8.63р)	1p (4.4p)	
Eorquein (1)	17.45m (15.4m)	0.211 (-0.132)	2.7p (-1.7p) .	1p (0.51p)	
Global Group (F)	119.4m (92.9m)	2911m (213m)	1.51p (1.17p)	0.6p (0.525p)	
McBride (I)	243.1m (213.9m)	8m (14.7m)	3.7p (266.5p)	2.25p	
Ustr Ceramic (F)	34.6m (31.8m)	2.6m (2.4m)	7.7p (6.4p)	3p (2.75p)	
Wilson (Connody) (F)	233.2m (256.69m)	22.52m (38.2m)	å.1p (13.5p)	4.54p (4.64p)	
Yorkshire Food (F)	174.36m (128.5m)	5.91m (5.98m)	10.47p (18.28p)	3.88p (3.52)	
(F) - निवर्ष (श् - क्रांक्रका					

The RBS Advanta Visa Card

Notice to Cardholders of Interest Change

Due to the change in Base Rate from 6.25% to 6.00%, your RBS Advanta Visa Card interest rate for Purchases and Cash Advances will be reduced accordingly from the first day of next month. Your interest rate margin

over Base Rate remains constant. Condition 5 of your RBS Advanta Visa Card Conditions of Use is varied accordingly. If you have any questions abour this change, please call our Cusromer Service Centre on:

0345 070 070

(calls charged at local rate).

RBS ADVANTA

Recorded in Southad No. 197256. Registered Office, 42 St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh EH2 2YE. Rais Accounts in a point contain company owned by The Royal Bank of Scotland ple and Advanta Corporate

Revised Interest Rates. Amended Investment and Savings Rates.

Effective from 23rd March, 1996.

Minimum CAR** Bonus Builder (Annually)** £100,000+ 6.00%.. 5.75% 4.60% £50,000 £211,000 5.50% 4.40% 5.00% 4.00% £10,000 £5,000 4.45% 3.56% Bonus Builder (Monthly) £100,000+ 5.85% 4.68% £50,000 T 5.60% 4.48% £211,000 . 5.40% 4.32% 4.90% 3.92% £10,000 Britannia High Interest (Annually) £100.000+ ...5.00% £50,000 4.75% 3.80% EZ0,000 4.50% 3.60% £10,000 3.60% 3.20% 3.60% £5,000 Britannia Monthly Income (Monthly) £50,000 4.60% 4.70% 3.68% £20,000 3.90% £10,000 3.97% 3.12% £5.000 3.40% 2.72% £2,500 2.75% 2.78% 2.20% Flexible Savings Account (Annually) £50,000+ 3.60% £20,000 3.35% 2.68% £10,000 3.20% 2.56% £5,000 2.90% 2.70% 2.00% LTD (Annually) 3.25% £500+ 2.60% £10 3.00% 2.40% Brighter Savers (Half Yearly) £1 3.00% 3.02% Trustee Deposit (Annually) £50,000+ 4.75% 3.80% £25,000 4,50% 3.60% 4.00% 3.20% £5,000 3.50% Tax Exempt Charities (Annually) £1 3.00% Tiered Renewal Bond 3rd Issue (Anniversary) £50,000 | 5,50%

£1,000 4.75% Effective from 1st April, 1996 Platinum and Flexi-TESSA (Annually) 6.10% TAX FREE* 5.70% TAX FREE*

£20,000 5,25%

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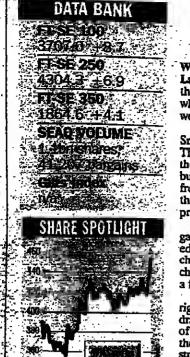
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Interest Rates



WH Smith climbs on expectations of Our Price sale

Ladbroke Group, dominated the stock market's thinking as what has been an uneventful

week ended on a weary note. In occasionally brisk trading Smith climbed 10p to 447p. The shares are still adrift from the 533p peak hit two years ago but have more than recovered from the 324p touched when the group produced a shock profit warning in May.

Since then Smith, often regarded as smug, has appointed Bill Cockburn, formerly in charge of the Post Office, as chief executive and inchalged in a few fringe changes.

Now, if the market is on the of Our Price music chain and

Will Smith and, once again, Lathroke Group, dominated and newspaper distribution.

Drastic action is seen as an urgent necessity as Smith looks vulnerable to a bid. Thom EMI and Virgin could be interested in Our Price with Boots, already sitting on 50 per cent of Do-it-All,

the most likely candidate to buy the rest. However, there is a school of thought that Boots would also like to rid itself of its DIY encumbrance and Doit-All could, lock stock and barrel, be sold to a rival operation. Ladbroke retained its posi-tion as the market's favourite

takeover bet. Another round of busy trading left the shares right track, something more at 1925p; highest close for dramatic is planned - the sale more than a year, after touching 194p.



MARKET REPORT

DEREK PAIN Stock market reporter

of the year

A deal makes sense. HHC runs the US chain of Hilton hotels, with Ladbroke embracing the international

Hilton portfolio. Uniting the two branches of the business, with all the administration and marketing benefits it would produce. must look attractive. But HHC is unlikely to want Ladhroke's betting shop, casino and properry interests.

ing mentioned more and more Turnover topped a billion often. Turnover topped a billion shares with the ±465m Guinness buy-back through Carenove making a significant contribution. There was also heavy trading in BTR. Pradential Corporation and

Northern Foods. The BSE disaster cut another 3p from Sims Foods to 19p and impacted on the dairy industry with Northern off 5p at 199p and Unigate 9p at 457 p. Hopes of a switch from red to white meat lifted Bernard

tion. Sun Alliance, said to be in talks to buy Friends Provident, bist early strength to and 1.5p down at 375p. Abbey National enjoyed a strong session with Societe

and bid hopes, gained 25p to 1,005p and Vodafone famed to

250.5p on vague bid specula-

Generale Strauss Turnbull. forecasting profits of £1,25bn this year and £1,5bn next. The shares rose 15p to 575p. Wickes, the builders merchants. was little changed at 131p as Mees Pierson Jorecast a near £14m profit advance to £41m this year and £52m in the foljowing year.

profit warning. Hard pressed Frust, the petrol retailer being squeezed shot ahead 17p to 133p. Mrs. EM Frost, wile of chairman James Frost, purchased 1000000 shares at 115p; she now has 260,000.

Nurdin & Peacock, the cash and carry group, improved 4p. to lottp on continuing gossip that SHV, the Dutch investment group which has around 14 per cent, will soon move to push its holding above 50 per cent or even bid for full control SHV is thought to be un-happy with N&P's 'recent performance.

an asbestos insurance settlement.

Ahead lost another 12p to Split from the Ex-Lands propas stockbroker Butterfield placed 33 million shares at 6p. They came from Ex-Lands in the war of the forecourts. shareholders who did not want a leisure involvement. The sell-off left Clubhaus a shade firmer at 6.25p.

> Pan Andean, seeking oil and gas in Bolivia, continues to stretch tu new highs, climbing 6p to 69p. BHP, the Australian giant, is expected to make an encouraging report about its seismic study of the Chapare field in the next two weeks. Pan Andean has a 20 per cent interest in Chapare.

SIR (Systems Integrated

Wilson draws the short straw

Swimming

GUY HODGSON reports from Sheffield

British swimming is not so strong that any stipulation about selection will draw too much blood. When the axe fell behind the front two in the 1500 metres in the Optrex Olympic Trials last night, however, a potential medallist was left with gaping internal wounds. tan Wilson, a silver medallisi

in the world short course championships last year, was the uniucky man who will not be going to Atlanta this summer after finishing third at Pond's Forge, Sheffield, To compound a miserable day for him, his British record was also taken by Graeme Smith with a time of 15min 03.43sec.

What hurt more was the second place of Paul Palmer, who will hope to be taking part in three events in Georgia, "I don't know why someone who will be going to Atlanta in the 2001 and 400 also wants to compete in the 1500," Wilson, from Leeds, had said before the race but looked like a man who had been gazumped after it.

Palmer, realising that an Olympic medal in the 1500m might be a more viable prospect

Mark Blundell is out of the Aus-

tralian IndyCar Grand Prix at

the end of the month following

his spectacular crash in last

weekend's Hollywood Rio 400

The British former Formula

One driver sustained multiple

fractures to his right foot when

brake failure sent his PacWest

Reynard into the wall on the

chief executive, said: "We're

thankful that Mark was not

Bruce McCaw, the PacWest

Motor racing

than in the shorter events, had muscled in on Wilson's distance to take the second qualilving place. It was not even a ose thing, Palmer crushing Wilson by 14 seconds.

The plot was three men go-ing for two places but Smith, a European Championship silver medallist last August, soon made that equation one out of two with a blistering start. A second up after 100 metres, he had stretched that to 10 seconds two-thirds of the way through the race. He was gambling with his stamina but it paid off. Palmer's tactic had been to

hang on to the other two and hope his greater finishing speed would carry him into the top two places. Instead he had to chase the teader, which worked in his favour as Wilson was left in the process. By the end what was potentially the most competitive race in the trials had become a procession, Smith winning by 15 seconds.

Sarah Hardeastle was positively bullish - if that is an acterm in these BSE-ridden days - about her chances in the women's 800m freestyle. "I believe I can win a medal," she said after qualifying to race in Atlanta with a time of 8:38.27 that was eight seconds inside the required time.

Blundell to miss IndyCar race

more seriously injured in what

was a terrible crash. However,

after he had a chance to get

home and undergo a complete

examination with his doctors, a

decision was made - upon

medical recommendation -

that he should not race in Aus-

tle more time to heal. If any-

thing happened in Australia, the risk of permanent damage would be unacceptably high. We're not willing to take any

any blame for the crash in last

chances.

"Mark is going to need a lit-

year-old from Bracknell returned to the sport in November 1992 was that she saw nothing at the Barcelona Olympics to suggest she would be out of her depth if she resumed a career that had climaxed with two medals in Los Angeles in 1984. Yesterday, you saw why.

Seven years older than any other woman in the final, she was in a different league as well as a different generation, creating a lead of six seconds at 400 metres and half the pool by the end. As she said: "There is no one coming through to take over from me when I retire."

Mark Foster also won by a large margin given that his dis-tance, 50m freestyle, is as much a reflex action as a race. The Commonwealth Games gold medallist two years ago, and the world short-course champion in 1993, finished nearly half a second ahead of the second-placed Alan Rapley in 22.74,

Sue Rolph, who qualified for the women's 100m freestyle on Thursday, will he doubling up io Georgia after winning the 50m yesterday. The 17-year-old from the City of Newcastle has struck a lucrative vein of form hecause her 26.15 was her second personal hest of the trials. Results, Sporting Digest, page 31

Sunday's race in the United

States, "We have reviewed the

circumstances surrounding the

incident and have concluded

that the cause of the accident

was a mechanical failure, in

which we assume full respon-

sibility. There was no driver er-

compete in Surfers' Paradise on

with the team to Australia.

"Mark is totally committed to

the team and is disappointed

that he will miss the series' first

Although Blundell will not

ror involved," he said.



'There is nothing like ripping a backhand down the line,' she said

Capriati has faith in her rehabilitation

JOHN ROBERTS reports from Key Biscayne

Having successfully completed the latest match of her comeback. Jennifer Capriati, the embodiment of a prodigy with problems, was asked to reflect on her ado-lescence. "Well, I went through a lot of emotions and feelings and a pretty fun, crazy time," she said.

The fun, as we know, was quickly overtaken by disaffection. Capriati was speaking some 10 miles from Coral Gables, where in May 1994, she was found in possession of mar-ijuana, and a short distance from Miami Beach, where she spent time in a drug rehabili-tation centre after her arrest.

It is proving difficult for her to live those events down, but she appears to be making a determined effort. "You can't always look back at what you should have done or what would have been better," she said. "You've just got to live in the now."

When the Lipton Champion-

ships end here next weekend. Capriati will lose her classification as a teenager (her 20th hirthday is on 29 March) and gain a world ranking for the first time in nearly two years.
In order to be placed in the

top-100 after her third tournament since returning last month, Capriati must advance to the quarter-finals. She needs to defeat Elena Likhovtseva, ranked No 49, and, if successful, may then have to face Amanda Coetzer, the 10th seed. Further-progress could lead to a meeting with Gahriela Sabatini, the No 4 seed, in the fourth round.

The first 20 minutes of. Capriati's opening match against Lea Ghirardi-Rubbi, a French left-hander ranked No 86, left spectators as cold as the distinctly unseasonal Florida evening. The American lost the first five games, contributing 14 unforced errors to her opponeut's confidence and winning only two points on serve.

After performing like a raith it wourd

novice, mis-timing shots which were either dumped in the net or flew out of bounds. Capriati proceeded to thrill the Stadium Court crowd with powerful. penetrative tennis reminiscent of her advent on the professional tour, when she soared to Nn 6 in the world. She won 13 of the next 24 games to win 7-5, 6-1.
"I just told myself to stop

missing and go for it." Capriatisaid. "I was a little nervous at first. I haven't been playing in front of a lot of people, and you can't just go right into that like it is nothing. It turned out to be good. I was having a great time out there, especially the way the crowd was supporting me.

"I never thought I was done with tennis. I knew that it was inside me and it is what I do hest. There is nothing like ripping a backhand down the line." There was a shock yesterday for Martina Hingis, the 15-yearold Swiss, seeded No 11, who was

defeated 5-7, 6-1, 6-3 in the first

round by Nana Miyagi, a Japan-ese qualifier ranked No 101. In the men's singles, Britain's Tim Henman advanced to a second-round meeting with Sergi Bruguera, the 10th-seeded former French Open champion, with a 6-2, 6-1 win over Steve Campbell, an American ranked 80 places below him, at No 138.

Greg Rusedksi also advanced to the second round with a 6-4, 7-6 win against Justin Gimelstrob, a wild card from New Jersey, ranked No 293. Rusedski now meets Sweden's Jonas Bjorkman, who is 10 places above him at No 35.

Boris Becker, the No 5 seed, withdrew from the tournament because of a respiratory infection which has troubled him for the past month. His place in the draw was taken by Thomas Nydahl, of Sweden, a "lucky loser" from the qualifying. Results, Sporting Digest, page 31

Feherty finds novel approach to bad greens

Golf

ANDY FARRELL reports from Lisbon

A questionnaire at each tour event asks the players to comment on various aspects of the tournament. For the greens, they are asked to state whether their pace is slow, medium or fast, "All of the above," suggested one competitor in the Portuguese Open at Arocira. "But not necessarily in that order."

Of course, in the afternoon,

RACING RESULTS

under par. "honce avoiding the added a 67 to reach 10 under did he feel the improvement and embarrassment of trying to putt". with a four-shot lead. In pick-he decided to make the trip to a 15-foot birdie putt in the dark with Russen Claydon.

with Russen Claydon.

portuguese open (Arobira, Unbon) Earby Become-round scores (68 or 14 unless)

To do so he is utilising the more conservative of his driving around 255 yards, but straight. On a bigger course, he would launch a 275-yarder that would

greens, you are going to have some chances. I'm trying to but I'm not expecting as many the greens are. It is a shame, be-

herty said. The Irishman pitched in from 70 yards at the ninth to infinish his second round at three first round 65, the Australian swing. Only last week, in Dubai.

The Scottish Open champion has on. Jamie Spence must have come as close as anyone to, the joint leading Englishman draming good things about the with Russell Claydon.

Import row rolls on

Basketball

lion yesterday led the Bud- players." weiser League's moves to calm

Having learned that players ketball Players' Association.

game, but this situation high-lights that we plainly need a bet-A promise of no disciplinary actier relationship with the Seven England internation-

> cotted the game in protest over leading players to richer conti-

Property.

OWAVAILAE

MINOS GREATE

William DIREC

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4. 37 0:71 293 2530 A STORY OF THE STO

05P3-FT KHANI LIGHT (17) J Pickering 8 11 7L Wyor OFFS-3P POND HOUSE (SS) (BF) M Pice 7 11 7

5.25 LEVY BOARD MAIDEN NH FLAT RACE (CLASS H) £1,800 added 2m 1f

- 6 BLAZING DOVE (148) R Price 5 11 10 ______ Gay Lewis (3) OS JOES BURTHDAY (19) P Webber 6 11 10 . Mr P Sente (7) O. NORTHERN STAR (10) | Pickerny 5 11 10 ... Miles | Wormell (?) C-OS SUPPEME NORMAN (10) | Pickerny 5 11 10 ... T Descentle (?) O/O CARLINGFORD LASS (25) F Johan 6 11 5 ... Mr 8 Sheekla (?) KONVEKTA QUEEN D Sherwood 5 11 5 Mr 4 Ha LITTLE WITHOWSKI C COWEY 8 11 6 B HF Leater (3) O SCALLY'S SECRET (19) J Peacock 5 11 5 ... Phillip Hughes (T)

■Tony Dobbin injured his left shoulder in a heavy fall from Domino Night to the povices' chase at Kelso yesterday. Dobbio gave up his remaining mounts and has also given up his rides at Bangor today as he planned

HYPERION 2.25 Driftholme 2.55 Mattimeo 3.30 Our Shadee 4.00 Golden Touch 4.35 Hever Golf Ea-

BRAW ADVANTAGE: Low numbers are less at someti-Equipment surface following, steep und danger course.

References a sandle-cod of over on P2005 Edenburgs word. Longrading station (served by Landon Victoria) asserts overse. AD-SION: Members \$1 - Tationally 20 Stort English CAR PARK: Tub \$10 remander (m

WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: Nome

LONG-DISTANCE RUNNERS Society Girl (*) (10 feet loon way 370 miles from (* Tromton v Michigana, stable in North Verkeberg, Ben A Vischer Boy (* 15) war a 170 miles from I Bethall's Michigan stable in North Verkeberg Bondon (* 15) went 170 miles from Michigan stable in North Verkeberg (* 15) went 170 miles from Michigan ston v Michigana stable in North Yorkstana. 2.25 CAMDEN ROAD SELLING HANDICAP (CLASS G) £3,000 added 3YO 1m 4f C4-6510 SUPAROV (26) T Mix, 9 7 ... W Ryan 2 6430.65 SHANDORA (37) Nr. N Macastey 9 3 Amenda Sanders (6) 7 ... M Fenton 5 000.00 LATES (28) 5 Pauro 6 7 ... W Holick 1 ... W Materia 2 ... W Holick 1 ...

3.30 VINES OF SEVENOAKS BMW HANDICAP (CLASS O) £5,100 added 6f -

 25.1.Ca Park Inter Boy (23) (CD) J Daze 6 9 2... A MyGlorne 2 7 65-0163 RANDOM (25) (CD) C Parks 5 8 10 C Ration 6 8 -41030 BEEN (113) (C) 4 Anns 3 8 8 I Take 8 9 0-43516 NEWMENTON BUTTS (17) (CD) k McJustile 6 8 5 ... B Duffield 7 10 008-004 CHEF'S LADY (S) J Eacley 4 8 2 L Chemick 3 -10 declared - BETTING: 4-1 Lord Sky, 5-1 The Institute Boy, Our Sharlee, 7-1 Newington Butts, Invocation, 8-1 Napoleon Star, Random, 10-1 others 4.00 BLACKBERRY LANE HANDICAP (CLASS D) £5,100 added 1m 2f

4.35 LINCOLNS MEAD HANDICAP (CLASS E) £4,200 added 3YO 1m

- 6 declared -BETTING: 9-4 So latropid: 11-4 Fort Natur. 4-1 Barbason, 5-1 Society, BMC 7-1 Again Togother, 8-1 Morning Suprise, 16-1 others

"I'll deny saying it." David Fe-

DONCASTER

1.30: 1. HIT OR MISS (1 Quant) 11-4 ray, 2. Hello Dolly 8-1: 3. Rahona 6-1, 7 ran, 3., 5. IM Channon: Tote: £2,60, £170, £3,60, Dual Forecast: £13,50 CSF, £22,47

2.05:1 SUNMER SPEL (S Sanders 13-2: 2. Amhem 13-2: 3. Ledgendry Line 20 1.11 ran. 3-5 far lines his 5an, 8, 5, 9 Chadion, Tote: £7.80ts £170, £1.30, £4.20 DF: £18.70, CSF £49.38, Tno

2.35: 1. SORBIE TOWER @ Cochrane: 6-1, 2. Mansab 3-1 far 3. Depiction 16-1 14 ran, 3-; 2 diles 6 kelloway. Tote: 29-30: £2-20, £1-60, £7-80, DF £11-00 CSF: £155-96, Time £42,360, Non Bunner; Attenenes & Donal Amazin

3.05: 1. SHADIRWAN (T. Dann): 10- i: 2. 3.05: 1. SHADIRWAN (T) (ann): 10- i: 2. Noyan 10-1; 3. Blazo Avay 12-1; 4. Upper Mount Clair 6-1 lav 2 20 ran. 5. 5. R. Alvanuss. Tote: £18 50. £2.90. £2.90. £2.90. £2.90. £0.05 for £100 20 Thosas £1.14.096 Inot £891 10 "loc Punner Mizza".

need 5.11.1. COOL EDGE 19 Pebuson 20-1.

2. Lymon Lad 25-1: 3. Dances With Hooves 33-1. 4. Golden Pound 25-1: 21 van. 7-2 fee Misser Fire Ever. 1 . 1 (M Tomplens). Tote: £24.80: £7.10, £5.30. £5.60. £5.40 CV. £215.60. CSF. £412.92. Meass. £13,827-88 Tino: £4,5-8-30 (Mx; 5crounk The Robet & Samrows. £500bay (24-2): orb. drawn not under orders; Pule 4 applies to board pnees, only, deduct 5p in £4.10-1. ANZIO. £81. Foreage, 11.1. 2

pness only, deduct 5p in £
4.10; 1. ANZIO -Pat Eddery: 11-1 2.
Sycamore Lodge 10-1: 3. Montserrat 121: 4. Castlerea Lad 12-1: 21. am. 8-1 p lanbrecongil Lad 2. Titer: 55: 10-4, no. 41.0s. Gay
Kellereay: Tote: £10-80, £2.90, £3-70,
£1.90, £3-90 DF, £48.30, £5: £114-8.
Thoast £1.283.07, Ino: £523.30, Non Runner: for The Present.

Jackpot: not won "pool of £71,788 08 to Don-

Placepot: £2,814,10, Quadpot: £134,40, Place 6; £3281,78, Place 5; £1,138,61

HEREFORO

2.10: 1 CASSIOS 807: 0 Gatagner 4-1. 2. Polly Leach 25-1: 3. Majboor Yafooz 5-1: 1.1 ran, 2-1 far Steef Gern Jün: 6, 11 98 Eddey: Tote: 25-20: £1.70-£19.20, £1.30: DF £141.80 GSF. £88.38, freact £458-35 Tao: £70.50, fton Runners: 3cta

2.40: 1. BALLY CLOVER (P Farrard: 5.0) 2. Ballydougan 16-1: 3. Majors Logacy 5-1: 13 ran. 6-4 lbt knockberry -- 5 (files y Williams). Toto: £3.10: £1.10, £6.10, £6.10. DF. £33.40. CSF; £40.61. Inc.

256 90. 3.10; 1. GROUND NUT IG Suppley 9-2; 2.

Rain-N-Sun 12-1, 3. Supreme Master 3-1-try 8 ran, dst, 9. (8 Burbler), 7ote: £5.80, £1.90, £2.20, £1.40 DF £43.30 CSF, £50.55 Treast £17.53, 3.45: 1 WORLD SOPRESS (0 Safrer) 10-

11 tar, 2, Hardy Weather 2, 1, 3, Sharp Penn 16-1, 9 ma., 12, 1, ..., 9 P. Iglémani, Tote: £2 00: £1 30, £1,20, £6,70 pe; £1 30, CSP £3,84, 7no, £33,50 NPs Aeolian, ketan,

4.15: 1. ALLO GEDRGE (D Gallo 字句: 13・ 8 (5r. 2. Aedean 5-1: 3. Charterforhard-mare 7-1. 6 ram. drsl., drst. rA heacomber Tota: 52,40; £1 30, £2 60, DF: £5 30 GSF-

4.45: 1. CARRY THE CARD (0 Galagner: 3-1: 2. Ganpati 13-2: 3. Nontiond Tina 13-4 to, 9 rgn. 1, 1. (9 Ginstani Tote: £3-60; £1-30, £3.30, £1.10, DF: £30.00 CSF

Smart Acr., Tango Man

At that moment, he was five

hehind the overnight leader, Klas Eriksson, who had yet to der could win."

McCaw absolved Blundell of street race of the season." Mc-

begin his round. "His eight under yesterday was extraordinary." Feherty added. "I can't wind keeps blowing, eight un-

drawn not under orders; Ruie 4 applies to all bels, ceduct of 5p in the pound, 5.15; 1. JOHNNY-K IR Massey! 5-4 fav; 2. Hills Gamble [2-1; 3, Fred Fuggles 7-1 11 ran. 9, 13, (0 Necholson, Total: £1,90; £1,50, £1,70, £1,80, DF, £11 50 CSF, 219 25 Tino £11 30 Non Rumers; Green hill Surphise, Loch Na heal & Weisth Sin Placement 519 23 Developer 5, 60

Placepot: £18.20. Quadpot: £3.60. Place 6: £39.06 Place 5: £10.46.

KELSO

2.15: 1. RALTSA (LWen 100-30: 2. Crystal Gift 3-1 3. Prince Equiname 10-1 11 ran. 7-4 ta. Tones (vito Days. 2, 5, M Hammond, Total 24-00, 11,80, 11-50, 52-90, DF, 28-00 CSF, £12-90 Tot. £28-30.

2.45: 1. BRIAR'S DELIGHT 1. Wen 5-1.

Dr. 28.70. EST. 11: 90 Inc. £28.30.
2.48: 1. BRIAR'S DELIGHT II. Wen 5-1.
2. Grouse-N-Heather 33-1. 3. Calthrees.
Cloud 5-4 faz, 9 ran. no. 1. in Allant. Total: 27-70. 21. 40, 52-80. 51.40. Dr. £289-10.
CSF. 5111-08. 18- Just Molly.
3.15: 1. COQUI LANE (Depther 11-2: 2.
Supreme Soviet 3-1. 3. Brambleberry 9-2. 8 ran. 15-8 fm Cool Luke (4m), 17n, 20.
Il Dun't Total: 59.80. 52.80. 52.00. 61.10.
CF. £18-00. CSF. £21.50. Incast £73.53.
3.50: 1. EMERALD SYORM, 16 Camil T-2: 2. Stormy Coral 9-2: 3. All's Allej 9-4.
CR. 8 ran. 16, 17. i. Ph. Jonienth, Total: £4.30.
£1.80. Encast £27.68.
4.20: 1. ROYAL ESTER (Mr. 6. Storey) 4-5.30. 2. Political Issue 16-1: 3. Parlebiz 19-1. 8 ran. 7. 25. Ithrs 1. Storey. Total: £1.80: £1.70. £3.80. 21. 10. CF. £13.90.
CSF. £13-11.
4.50: 1. TURNISH TOWER (I) Benden 13-

4.50: 1. TURKISH TOWER I'll Bendey 13-2, 2, Current Mony 5-1, 3, Vigrano 33-1, 10 ran, 5-11 fp. Shahow fever 2, 5-/8 Neord Tote: 510 Soc. 51 80, 51 70, 53-40, DF: 522-90, CSF 526-15, Tho: £124-80,

5.20:1. MASTER NOVA PINAMEN 1-4 fav. 2. Garbo's Boy 10-1: 3. Tough Test 12-1. 10 rat. -1. Mr. -1. Mr. -1. Camachol. Totol: £2.10. £1.40. £3-40. £1.50. DF: £3.70. CSF: £3.80. Inc. £1.1 30. Placepot: £48.10. Quadpot: £24.00. Place 6: £26.43. Place 5: £18.60.

NEWBURY

NEWBURY

1.50: 1 WELCOME CALL U Oscome) 7-2 lav 2. What's Your Story 4-1: 3. Act of Farth 7-1. 14 ran. 5, 8 (0 Sherwood), Totes: 14-00; (1-40, 6) 40, 62 20 DF, £11.70. CSF, £16-07 Ino £20,00, NRs: Buffers Boy, french Boy. 1, deny House, Supreme Spirit 2-2.5: 1 WEE RUNER U Collaghant 2-1: 2. Southampton 13-8 lav; 3. James The First 3: 1 4 ran. 1. , sht-rd. (6 Moorel, Totes £2.30, DF, £2.96, CSF, £5.30

2.56: 1. THE TOISEACH IT J Murphy 33-1, 2. Palosanto 5-1: 3. Fine Sir 33-1, 20 ran, 4-1 tay Just in Ace (4th. 4, 1%, (1 fanshuwe), Tote: £80,00; £16.20, £1.79, 122.90, DF, £272.90 CSF, £184.55, NR: General Poorgo.

Serie al Pongo.

3.25: 1. ST MELLION FARRWAY (R Dun-wood): 4:11 tax: 2. Dom Sameura: 11.4:

1. Super Gossip 12:1. 3 ran. 5. det (D Rachelson). Tota: £1.20 DF: £1.30, CSF.

£1 66. 4.00: 1 AROUND THE HORN IP hide! 7-

2. 2. Nickle Joe 11-2: S. All For Luck 11-97av, 4 ran, 17-, 13- U Getord Total £2.70 DF, £6.7D, CSF: £16-94 NPs Pashto & Vise

1. 2. Hamilton Silk 9-4 it fav; 3. Richellen 9-4 ji kv. 6 ran. 1, 14, (4. Streauri, Toto: 57-70. £2-50. £1-60. DF: £4.80. CSF £11-35, NR. Verde Link.

4.35: 1. CENTAUR EXPRESS IT Desi 7-

acept: £242,90. Quadpot: £65.90. ace 8: 5406.95, Place 5: £233 84

ing up six birdies. Riley is clearly doing something well. "I'm keeping the ball on the fairways," he explained.

see it happening again. If the styles. That means hitting it the wind dropped. Although only be "relatively straight".

BANGOR

HYPERION

2.10 Indicator 2.40 Hullo Mary Doll 3.10 Change

The Act 3.45 Parsons Boy 4.20 Derring Bridge

Goldwei Soll.

Left-hand, unfulating course, run-in (25) its.

Course to four miles south-east of Wresham near junction of A525 and B5069, Bus service from Wresham sation. ADMISSION: Padidork \$8 Course \$ 1 tunder-16s free all environmes). CAR PARKE

WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN OAYS: Kndari (2 10) won at

LONG-BISTANCE BELL-VERMOND AND SUrprise 15.2% LINE all been sent 281 miles by Thomas Deer from Interstructure. Expender Northe Crown (2.10), Frond House, Eyer from Interstructure. Expender Northe Crown (2.10), Frond House, 1750 at Doler Notte (5.25) sent 170 miles by Martin Pipe from Nebolskoppe, Decade Cottage John 176 miles by Martin Pipe from Nebolskoppe, Decade Cottage John 176 & Squines Tale (3.45) have been sent 147 miles by W.A. B. thell from Arnold, Humbersule.

2.10 PENLEY NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,500 added 2m 1f

0-00P0 ALTHREY ARISTOCRAT (17) F Logs 6 11 6 ... Doubted

637212 ISLAND VISION (156) J 0'9'44 6 11 12

on Saturday, Parsons Soy (3.17) son at New astic on . LONG. DISTANCE RUNNERS: Pacific War (2.10). Bulltown Blues

4.55 Three Saints 5.25 Blazing Dove

Portugal only last Saturday. "If you hit fairways and

pull the same as on good greens, to drop, I can't describe how bad cause it is such a good course otherwise," he said.

Some things are better slept

on Thursday evening, Had it not gone in, the Kent golfer would have slaved four over with five

holes of his first round to play. Yesterday, he picked up an-

other two birdies in those five holes, before adding a second round of 66. Pride of place went to a putt from 30 feet at the second that dived underground. In 24 holes he had improved from

000 MELLERS GOLDENGEL (15) 3/s 5 Smeth 5 11 1 Richard Guest

OZOS INDICATOR (24) (Quera 4 10 12 Al Devyer INTEABADUM A Savey 1 10 12 T Kont

- 16 declared -

BETTING: 5-2 Indicator, 4-1 Island Vision, 6-1 Belle Rose, 13-2 Chiporus, 8-1 Lowful Love, 20-1 Coltage Joher, Pacific Wor, 12-1 others

2.40 CROSS LANES CONDITIONALS SELLING H'CAP HURDLE (CLASS G) £2,800 added

354051 KADARI (T) W Co. 7 11 13 Guy Lorde
154911 MHEMENNIES (17) (b) Cos.) Whom 6 11 9 D Parlier
154142 BUCKLET BOTS (7) (b) A Sarry 5 11 7 D Funegon (5)
15440 TEXAS SCRAMER (21) (b) B Bassh 7 11 6 L Aspell (3)
1555-70 BOUTROSE (315) 10 She 2 6 11 6 R McChrath (3)
16403-0 BRISGS LED (280) 1 Beheft 7 11 4 A Manners (5)

Vicinium in grati 10ct. True nandicae inngrasi Ascante 9st 13th, Chowpor 9st 5d. , por Mariner 9ot 5th, fittascal Vicinion 9st 4th

SETTING 9-2 Radari, 5-1 Minomorales, 6-1 Bockley Boys, 8-1 Orchidar-real 10-1 Orchidarna, Helio Mary Doll, 12-1 Boshehr, 14-1 George Lane, 16-1 others

3.10 ALTHREY WOODHOUSE HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS C) £6,500 2m 4f 110yds

- 3 declared -

Mountain as the 10% line temporal weight. The Toaster Set 13th Betting: 1-4 the Toaster, 15-8 Change the Act, 5-2 Mediation

2m 1f

PORTUGUESE OPEN (Arbeira, Lisbon) Early second-round scores (GB or in unless stated): 122 W Riey (Aus) 65 ft. 137 / Townsen (US) 66 68, 138 R Claydon 66 ft?; 15 pence 72 65; M Gause 68 70; O Borrego ISpl ET 72 139 G Chalmers (Aus) 69 70; O Feberty 70 69; J Van de Veda Fri 74 65; T Gogels (Gen 69 70; J Revero ISo 71 68; J Hacegman (Swel 67 72, 140 M Daves 72 68; P Linhart (Sp) 68 72; P Boker 71 69; F Lindgen (Swel 69 72; P Sykland (Swel 68 72, 141, L Westwood 70 71; D Smyth 68 73; A Collego 72 69; M Lumari 73 69; P Linder 74 69; P Linder 75 69; B Lane 70 71; S Cage 71 70; R Drummond 72 70; M McLoun 68 73, 442 D Carter 71 11; P Way 72 70; D Roberson TO 72; S Gallacher 72 70; A Coltant 70 72; M A Jimenez ISp) 71 11; R Boxall 70 72.

11 ANDRE LAVAL (11) (D) K Baley 7 12 1 255111 PARSONS BOY (5) (D) G Richards 7 12 1

PO SAGAVILLE (23) | Norton 6 11 6

PBF32P- SQUIRES TALE (299) W Bertel 8 116.....

3-44323 PRIDE OF MAY (18) (BF) C Feetrard 5 11 10

35-0-06 MY SWAN SONG (15) J Smith 11 10 7_____

11 P3-PP60 ERLENO (17) (D) (V Clay 7 10 0

5603- DERRING BUD (347) Lady Susan Brooke 12 11.6 _ No G Shenida 4 OVER THE WREIGH (19) | NewStarn 9 11.6 _ Mr R Thornton

- 6 declared -

BETTING: evens Parsons Boy, 5-4 Apdre Lavet, 10-1 Squires Tale, 18-1 Derring Bod, 20-1 Over The Wriston, 33-1 Sagaritie

4.20 LIGHTWOOD GREEN HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS E) £4,000 added 3m

50-000 BEFFRING BRODGE (T) Arc 5 Johnson 6 10 7 D Waleh (S)
000035 PHARARE (J4) P Woodhouse 6 10 1 D Waleh (S)
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- In decising - life, many segment of the segment o 15 declared =

BETTRUE 7-2 Pride Of May, 5-1 Fly By North, 6-1 Ehead, 7-2 Dening Bridge, 8-1 Plastere, 10-1 Viscount Tully, 12-1 My Swan Song, 14-1 New Tribe,

4.55 MAELOR MAIDEN CHASE (CLASS E)

340/592 BATHROICK SOBERE (7) 0 Williams 9 11 7 Miles 8 Higgins (7)

We're very disappointed they petition. 3.45 MILES MACADAM NOVICE CHASE (CLASS D) £5,500 added 3m 110yds

the storm caused by a players' als, all members of the BPA, boycott of this week's All Star which represents more than 50 Game, writes Duncan Hooper. per cent of league players, boyhad considered extending their the League's decision to scrap. protest to this weekend's league the two foreigners limit for games, the League decided to

next season. The League and
club owners fear an exodus of

Mike Smith, the chief exec- nental leagues, and have lifted. utive, said: "There is no ques- restrictions to allow more imtion of any disciplinary action. ports into the domestic com-

12 SOFUSE EXPLORE WITHERMAL LAW, 1 1975

- 12 declared BETTING: 9-4 Three Saints, 4-1 Seymour Spy, 5-1 Poud House, 6-1 Bathwick Sobble, 8-1 Haselton Terrace, 9-1 Explore Mondial, 14-1 others 12 · GORGE EXPLORE WONDIAL (18) T Dier 5 10 12

| 2001.4 W Jerks 5 11 5 | Doublist 6 | Doubl

18 O BLUE HAVARIA (22) Generic Ros 4 10 11 Steam Srahme (7)
18 O BLUE HAVARIA (22) Generic Ros 4 10 11 Steam Srahme (7)
18 Betting: 9-4 Dolos Notis, 11-4 Konvolta Queen, 5-1 Blazing Dove, 8-1
The Braner, 10-1 Instanctordinate, 12-1 Jou's Bertinday, 14-1 Lothers Convoltance, 18-1 others

in visit Hogh Barber, a Carlisle-based specialist, last night. Dobbin said: "The physio here at the racecourse does not think there's anything broken. I do not know if I shall be back at Hexham no Monday."

LINGFIELD

gle 5.10 So intrepid

GOING: Standard

BLPNERED FOR THE PERST TIME: Scheque (2.2% 2.2% Further Future (2.2%) Margi Boo (2.2%) Casino Chipa (2.5%).

-7 declared The main weight To 10th, The Narocca weight Belactio To 7th,
BETTING: 11-4 Supprey, 7-2 Latzle, 4-1 Standors, 9-2 Further Puture,
5-1 Ontholme, 12-1 Marg Boo, 20-1 Belaction

2.55 SAINT PIERS MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS F) £3,450 added 3YO 1m

50 MATTRIED (23) A 18745 90 Mattries (5) 7 (6) 5 SAFECRACKER (1911) I HEE 90 Mattries (5) 7 (6) 5 SPIRAL RIVER (21) 11 Lists 39 Mattries (1) 11 Lists 30 Mattries (1) 11 Li - 8 declared ESTIFIG: 2-1 Mattanee, 3-1 Cherry Garden, 7-2 Be Satisfied, 5-1 Safe-cracker, 8-1 Danico, 10-1 Cool Fire, 12-1 others

- 9 declared -SETTING: 3-1 Mr Nevermenton, 9-2 Herr Trigger, 5-1 Colden Touck, 6-1 Non-reyer Demorr, Renown, T-1 Wild Palm, 8-1 Robeltion, 10-1 others

- 7 declared -BETTIME 3-1 Ben'A vector Boy, 4-1 Lady Digarty, 9-2 Rowlandsons Chern 9-1 Never Golf Englo, 6-1 Dormor, Tahya, 12-1 Sphint Larenty 5.10 HARE LANE LIMITED STAKES (CLASS F) 2-3,450 300000 (23) (CD) (BF) A Moore 4 9 8 __Candy Media 7.
24:231 PORT (NOOK (5) (CD) R M Flove 5 9 8 ______ D Blegs 5.
4008-1. 50 MEREPD (B) 1 M Bedley 8 98 ______ D Drowns (3) 2.
209006 DISTARI DYMASTY (23) (C) B Pance 6 9 6 ______ M bedley 1.
300-005 THORSWAMA (28) 1 Broger 5 9 3 ______ A Dely (5) 4.
023:20 ASAM TOGETHER (163) (1 Moore 3 8.2 ______ F (such (6) 8.
126:30 MORRAYS SURFRESE (117) A 124-2 3 8 2 ______ Take 8.
6-543:25 SOCIETY GER_LIGHT (D) C Thornton 3 8 2 ______ (6) Duffield 6.

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Faith is favoured by draw

GREG WOOD-

Soft ground and firm predictions are rarely a dependable race like the Lincoln, but as odds are too good to miss. punters face up to the annual. first big handicap, one thing seems clear. Runners who are drawn towards the stands' side - indeed, all those whose box number is into donble figures are as good as beaten before the

starter reaches for his button. History, both distant and ex- should also go close. tremely recent, allows no other conclusion. The two most recent runnings of the Lincoln on soft ground both produced a winner on the far side, while the evidence of yesterday's Spring Mile was conclusive. While most riders decided, puzzlingly, to go down the stands' side, and ap-peared to be well ahead at halfway, the remainder eventually finished a long way clear. Horses from stalls two, one, seven and three filled the first four places, and Sharp Prospect, the antepost favourite who will start from number 14, immediately started a walk in the market which

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will surely continue today. A further statistic is worth considering before anyone opts for one of the market leaders. which is that only 10 per cent of Lincoln winners have finished in the first three in their previous outing. This does not mean we can simply strike out all those which do qualify, but it is another sign that fancied horses do not perform well in this race. The shortest-priced winners in the last eight years were 16-1 chances, and while refusing to bet is the sensible option, anyone who wants to play should do so to small stakes at large odds.

The apparent advantage of a low draw has started a round of price-cutting, but strangely one runner with soft-ground form, a leading trainer and a liking for a straight mile is still available at 25-1 this morning.

which is, if anything, even more. Amanda, at the campaign's end.

frantic than today's assignment, and while his final run last year was a little disappointing, he had previously finished fourth in the Cambridgeshire. From his number five draw, a promioent combination, not least before a showing must be likely, and the

The remainder of Donaster's enigma that is the Flat season's card is uninspiring, although Rainbow Top is an interesting runner in the 12-furlong conditions event after two casy wins on the all-weather. Daraydan (4.15) may be too good for him today, however, while Carranita (4.45) and Beas River (2.30)

> Newbury's jumps card is pre-dictably diminished by its proximity to the year's two hig Festival meetings, but the fields

RICHARD EDMONDSON NAP: Do Be Brief (Newbury 100) NB: Supreme Lady (Newbury 2.00)

are strong even if the quality is not. The feature event, the Hoechst Panacur Novices' Hurdle Final for mares, can fall to SUPREME LADY (nap 2.00). for whom today's conditions will be ideal, and Teinein (next best

1.30) is another to support.
Some of the crowd will be drifting home as the concluding bumper is run, but not Ferdy Murphy. The trainer was infuriated that French Holly was dcnied a run in Chehenham's Festival Bumper by the handicapper's ungenerous estimate of his ability. Murphy believes that French Holly would have stood a major chance, so he will need to win today's bumper in style.

Adrian Maguire, the punters' favourite, is again absent today, but will see a specialist oo Mooday and hopes to return to the saddle oo Wedoesday, 24 hours before the start of Amtree.

Another well-known figure is

preparing to depart the stage. Guy Harwood, who prepared Dancing Brave and many other top-class winners such as To-It is almost three years since. Agori-Mou and Ile De Chypre Show Faith (3.40) woo the Bri-during the 1980s, has antannia Handicap at Royal As- nounced that he will pass his licot, an eight-furlong charge cence on to his daughter.

LINCOLN HANDICAP - 10 YEAR TALE	ı
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Profft or loss to \$1 status Forquittes £10.00 Second Feedurities £5.00	•
Percentage of whaters placed Let, 2nd or 3nd in last recet 10%	÷
Shortest-priced wisdom: Star Ot A Gunner 9 1 (1987)	ď
Longest priced winners: 33-1 Carca Charle (1988). Extricte: (1980). A Roung attention (1995).	
Top traboor. No spener has wen this race more than ence in the part 10 years	

NOW AVAILABLE FOR THE FLAT

Top lockey: No index has seen this rece judge their once in the past 10 years.





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DONCASTER

HYPERION 2.00 Kingsinger 4.15 Right Win 230 Le Sport 4.45 Cool Jazz (nb) 3.00 Achame 5.15 Frontmen

3.40 SHINEROLLA (nap) GOING: Flored to both (Noth in places).

STALLE: Strappe course - stage? substance-tende - mode, though mile - outside URAW ADVANTAGE: Low numbers lost on count note.

Electrhodic periodisped course with 1 mile straight.

Electrodice is used of norm off the Advis ADS ACLA of A. 1. But link from Dominator Countly relieved to those off the Advis ADS ACLA ADMISSION: Chin 2.9., Grandshand \$10. Family Engineers 54 (under-the fee off englactures). CAR PARK: Physical ADMISSION: Chin 2.9., Grandshand \$10. Family Engineers. 54 (under-the fee off englactures). CAR PARK: Physical Admission (1998).

LEADING TRAINERS WITH RINNERS: B Hills - 21 winners from 121 tunners at a ratio of 17, the going a return to a 21 had state-of - 500,18, B Hanson - 21 winners. 228 tunners, 9 214, 400, f8, H Coel 10 winners. 77 tunners 21,7% + 550 w/s M R Sciente - 19 Winners, 93 tunners, 20 1% + 50, 56, J Dunlop 27 winners, 107 tunners, 15, 2% +510.97, Mrs M Reveley - 15 supports, 140 runners, 11.996, 5 (c.1.). J Berry - 12 supports, 111 runners, 12.79, +510.00

But 111 runners, 12.7% (\$29.00)

But 2.2018 JOCKEYS: Pat Eddery - 11 waters, 183 rates, 16.5%, (\$2.5%) BLINGERD FIRST TIME, Nov.
WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: Nov.
LONG-HISTANCE BLINNERS: Sommer (2.00) are horsested affer the last seven has been sent affer the last sent affer the last seven has been sent affer the last seven has been sent affer the last seven has been sent affer the last sent affer the last seven has been sent affer the last sent affer the last seven has been sent affer the last seven has been sent affer the last seven has been sent affer the last sent affer the l

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RETURN: 3-1 Majors, 7-2 Magical Times, 4-1 Spontakks, 5-1 Kingshight, 7-3 Nervous Res, 10-2 Fee of Vent-Ada, 12-1 Nightand Pass, 14-1 others 1996: Fustor N. 2 6 6 F Norton 20-1 T McMaron 13 co

2	2.30	MARK THOMAS CHUM SPECIAL HANDICAP (CLASS D) £6,000 added 3YO 7f Penalty Value £4,854
1 1	32322-	MESSENELS (171) A J Street J Duter 97
] 2	1 (5112	LE SPORT (D) (D) (DF) Sample Terrotog Latte - 4 Song 96 D Willet (D) S
3	2:0:00	SUMEDICAL (III) the Same A. P. Hot Treat 91
14	0-25116	FERST MARTE (24) (S & Bourne S & Bourney & 12
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6		BEAS ROVER (151) % 1 (% V Parke, W Vor 2 10
7	422110	REBEL COUNTY (152) JEASTINE SERVICED, D'CONTRE E 15 M Nother (7) 1
9		KNAVE (128) R H2:-tr: R H2:-to: 5 7 Deer O'Net (5) 14
9		ISLAY BROWN (182) : Comes State: W.Exe; E.S.
10		SEATTLE ALLEY (USA) (USA) (USA) (PALCYZE 1/3) (Parcer 5) K Felon B
13		CARMOSA (USA) (112) 9 A 80000200; 3 Not 25 8 1
1 12		THEATRE MADE (SZ) (D) Green Descard Reary & R. South & S N Cartille 9
		SEMERORIE PORCHE (1771) (O) Homa Sociation Rivogs 7 15 M. Baird (5) 7
		ORBOLE (220) Dor. Erres most; N Troop 7:10 New Tribler 10
٠.		- 14 declared -
Men.	JEM WES	to Tel 166. The rending weight draw to To

SCTING 44. Night Hills, 5-1 Sans Shor, 6-1 Bobel County, 7-1 Cranguairs, 6-1 Le Sport, 10-1 First Maits, Kanso, Shordule Keight, 12-1 others 1986: Matte For Eyes 3 8 0 8 Coye 100-30 × Section; 15-7: FORM GUIDE

the Magle, who cost only 2,500g/s from Tim Etherngton's year last September but gelded attenuants, has been much improved on the all-meather for Roy Bowrse, Theoric was golded attenuants, has been much improved on the all-meather for Roy Bonaria. Theorie Magic stays beyond a mise but he is a speedy type and may not be at his best on the soft-ish ground on a counte like this. Boxamig has another storig to his how in the staye of First Mailte and and this scopey prother to the useful Saxonmane is another throm the all-weather. He seems best at Southerell and so his latest innang, at Whorehampton, can probably be overlooked, it could be taking a chance on SEATTLE ALLEY twing the easy good recause he showed potential in an educational first season and will certainly stay this tip and beyond as the year progresses.

Selection: SEATTLE ALLEY

Ţ	3.00	DONCASTER SPRING STAKES (CLASS C: £10.000 added 3YO 1m Penalty Value £6.380] [4
	22-223	ACCOMPAND ASSA 7259 Din miser various villous	
3	3-	PRODUCTION ALSO LESS ALTHOUGH PRODUCTION ACHIEVES LESS ACHIEVES ACHIEVES LESS ACHIEVES LESS ACHIEVES LESS ACHIEVES	1 3
•	7.	MC-T 262. 1 Com	
		- Supplement - Projection, 3-4 Victoria, 7-2 Alberton, 5-5 Microria, 12-3 Migration, 7-2 Alberton, 5-5 Microria, 12-3 Migration, 7-5 Microria, 12-3 Migration, 7-5 Microria, 7-5 Microri	

FORM GUIDE
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FORM GUIDE

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4.15 MIDLAND COPYING DONCASTER SHIELD STAKES C4
1 153 E.P. (BANESH (BEA) (240) (C) (D) HUMBER A MARKON (F Mix 4 5 4 July 12 July W Comon
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C ACTES REGIST WOLLDED: Dr. Line Lessuer & Horar 6.8 12
11 RABRECON TOP (29. 1 Table of Page of 10
- 7 declared -
- / Deciment -

BETTITAL 5-2 Pages Wim, 3-1 Descriptor, 7-2 Javesth, 4-1 Soute, 10-1 Penny & Day, Paushow Top.

20-1 Lingar West. 1995: Fire American 4 & 16 : Company 1, 2 : Gaption 11 ref. FORM GUIDE RIGHT WIN is in their number and that make of source might have done him come good to be writtened to the more recording to the present to the living and, of excess, his financial set used. The their injures operand for him, but it is difficult to access Rambow Top the required to his societies as the Secretary of him, but it is difficult to access Rambow Top the required to his societies as the Secretary at Legisled in operationing this items who access to the Secretary cache more from March to Omore it, being on the Secretary and the conference tracks. considering an expectant with rest, on, musting each month from March 10 October, 18400, or three proteins: Country is an extraoring on the adversaling as ed as from the contented races on other 3.5 Country trace place of a number set of executing from Jeros off through 16 Group time. If you have not not not not respect on, good, but Borton mustains that fortowing more of a total on 18550. Penny A Day, in 3500 form, over timber, is purfered to Jurish. Who of the tentown is 18550. Penny A Day, in 3500 form, over timber, is purfered to Jurish.

4.45 CAMMIDGE TROPHY (CLASS A) (Listed Race) C4

FORM GUIDE FORM GUIDE

MARD TO FIGURE mags: de a tem-graniol with invited options, but it in early to imagine Pon Hodwin hamp num in good projet for the Littled spirit. This horse carried fer 10 to incoming num in good projet for the winner. Dering Destiny and with Carroniol 10 10 to incoming nums point to bent both the again ran well in that race last year, as well as in other top humbians. He also with a Listled spirit at Herwing, Montendre is fough and body to point on work with the should figure along with Domittle tigoes well fresh and Cool Jazz, who day so a train not listantal might need before ground, but could be the proof of the board as the season progresses.

Selection: HARD TO FIGURE

5.15 SOUTH YORKSHIRE MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £5,100 added 3YO 6f Penalty Value £3,883

Talk, Spotted Eagle, 12-1 others 1995: Fata 3 9 0 A Carson 6-1 /P WARKET, 20 ron

FORM GUIDE

There is improvement in Sihafi who have a not muzzle and can tree early but then held or well when second to Victima Regs in a York maders late last year. He can go close, but Green Barries and Magic Mait are others to note on last years form. Still, it would be a tig nustaine simply to rule out the newcomers and PROUD LOOK and Loose Talk and two there are good reports of Proud Look as by former top spiriter Daylor out of a sister to small.

NEWBURY

1.00 Do Be Brief 1.30 Kingsfold Pet 2.00 Guinda 2.35 Dream Ride

HYPERION 3.05 Coolree 3.35 Peace Lord

GOING: Chases - Suff; thurdles - Heavy.

■ Lett-hand course with stiff fearers.
■ Course is 50 of town near A34. Ratiway station (service (non-London, Paddington) adjustes course, ADMISSION; Hembers 513; Tattensalls 53; Silver Ring 53 (GAPs half price).
CAR PARK: Free; Pionic area 53 per car plue 53 per person.

M LEADING TRAINERS WITH RUNNERS: O Nicholson—17 winners from 116 runners gives a success ratio of 23.0% and a less to a £1 level stake of £19.01: N Headerson —25 winners, 116 runners, 21.0%, -52.61. O Sherwood — 19 winners, 77 runners, 24.7%, -51.2.14: M Pipe — 18 winners, 38 runners, 20.5%, +52.46.

M LEADING JOCKETS: J Obborate—42 winners from 106 runners gives a secrets rule of 25.5% and a loss to a 51 keel stake of 57.21: R Dumwoody — 32 winners, 155 runners, 25.2%, -52.4.56 A Magdare — 20 winners 129 runners, 15.5%, +£2.25: P Holley — 16 winners, 77 runners, 10.5%, +£2.05

WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN OAYS: Star Market (1.90) won at licreford on Saturday.

day.

LONG-DISTANCE BUNNERS: Copperhampt (2001 has been sent 302 males by W Kemp from Dana, Borders; Irish Stamp (100), Royal Banker (2.35) & French Holly (4.05) nave been sent 237 miles by F Marphy from Middleham, North Yorkshare.

The second secon	
1.00 BROWN CHAMBERLIN HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS B) £10,000 added 3m Penalty Value £7,064	BC1
B) £10,000 added 3m Penalty Value £7,064	
1 F-32444 FLYER'S NAP (11) IR J Tory R 45x7 10 12 G	
2 36P-3P5 MERE CLASS (15) (D) "Air P Extent C Brooks 10 12 0	
3 111F-15 SURY BAY (77) (8F) (liptores Economical C Brooks 7.11.12 4 1-321-48 STRONG MEDICINE (131) (0) (N. 10 8 A Soly N Barry 9.11.7 5 56-1960 YORKS-HOE GARZ (56) (0) 784 Reshort (1 6/hops 10.11.2	
4 1/32148 STRONG MEDICINE (LL) (D) (TV D 8 A SAV K Barry 9 11 7	
6 00-113P TURNING TROX (11) (DI AND DAVES DINCTOSON 9 11 3	
7 405213 TRESH STAMP (332) FD) IP OTOMAN F WURT 7 10 13	
8 FO-4401 DO BE BREF (18) (CD) Ford Browni Mrs J Parran 11 10 8	
9 3112P; CLAXION GREENE (1,060) (D) (2:550-2- Patrentia) 1/ Page 12 108	C inpute

- 9 declared -6 Trible: 11-4 Suny Bay, 4-1 Turning Tets, 5-1 On Se Brief, 6-1 Piyer's Nap, 8-1 Strong Medicane, 10-1 Yorkshire Gale, 13-1 Irish Stamp, Mere Class, 14-1 Claston Greens 1966: Well Brafer 6-10 9 8 Powes 100-30 HR Buckler 8 ran

1965 Well Briffor S 10 9 8 Power 100 30 rif Bucklen 6 ran

From GUDE

Do Be Brief, now 11, has been a now of both by throughour its career and cook advantage of the handicapper dropping him in the weights to put young upstans Philip's Woody and Distinctive in their place over the course and distance earlier in the month. Although up 5th as a result, Do Be Brief is still 18th before of their when fourth berind Suny Bay and Towcester before Christmas. He may have been brushed easide by the younger horse in the short
straight but will be a short in anyhore's side on those terms. Only severt, Suny Boy was confirming lest season's promise with that impressive win and was farmed to follow up in stranger
company at Sandown the following month only to slip up on the bend and the back straight.
He is a nose, young prospect who should with his share of races, but he reportedly bride his
jaw that day and in the circumstances TURNING TRIBLancher on the upgrabe, could be the
one to be on moday. Turning Triv with his first two starts the greason, must affars at Ludow
and Towcester, in the manner of an improving horse and has the misforture to come up
against the two-and-a-traif-mus speculist and in-form Teroo here last month. He gave another good account of himself over a trip perhaps too short and his subsequent numming in
the Nim Muri can be ignored, as he was effectively out of it after being trained when Geneal Wolfe field and thought down Strong Medicine at the instruct. Storig Medicine was start as
tended as Turning Trix but held looked back to his best when easily account File Concord at
Chettentham (Cm5) in December, the stays this trip and safe without a chaine. Ryer's Nap,
also in action on Chettenham, was rather disappointing in finishing a respone tought to Maemur in the Rtt. Today's ground may not older a suitable test of starma for firm and Yorkshire Galle, with his stable conneg book to form, may have a better chance at the weights.
He tooled an irriproved horse after withing of Chetenh

	1.30	LAMBOURN HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS B) £7,000 added 2m 110yds Pen Value £5,215	BBC1
1	F03050	KADASTROF (FID 15) ID) IA P Pagon) R Dicker 6 12 0	
2	5-1046F	MOPS AND POPS (18) (C) (D) (EF) The Happy Benci R Amer 9 11 13	. Mr P Hostoy (5
3	3500/2 P	TAROUDANT (28) (G.A. Fametoni P. Viccoltone 9 11 13	D Cadestre
4		MAJOR BUSIER (9) (CD) Michael For Dreen, 6 States 7 11 10	
5	3-06216	KUNGSFOLD PET (I.A) (CD) (BF) (Exos of the late 14" G E Nye) M Harres	7 11 5 D Skyrp
6	5111	FROCKARCH (USA) (11) (CD) (Mrs Heten Mrs; R Proces 6 11 0	Relito
7		TEDEN (PR) (14) (D) (DF) (Smar Sansbury) T Former 5 10 12	
8	541001	STAR MARKET (7) (DI) (Mrs P Joynesi N Taxton-Daves 6 10 9	C Liamely
8	220520	TELANO GOLD (USA) (9) (D) (Paul Braces) P Bradley 6 10 6	A Thornto

may be the main danger.

Royal Lodge Stakes at Ascot last September, might be better value than the Newmarket maiden win-

ner Projection or Mushahid, whose

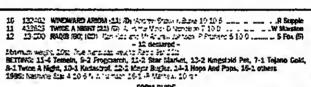
best form is on firm ground.

1.00: DO BE BRIEF, who was of-ficially rated 9lb higher in the 1994-95 season, came back to form over this track, trip and going last time and can defy a 6lb rise in the ratings. With Flyer's Nep and Turn-ing Tris performing poorty at Chel-tenham and Strong Medicine ansuited by the ground, Suny Bay

3.46: SHINEROLLA, an everarch ing 2% lengths third to Pine Ridge Lad over an inadequate seven fur 1.30: KINGSFOLD PET is 21b longs on Fibresand at Wolver worse off with Tejano Gold for the 2 length beating he gave him over hampton last month, is superbl drawn, fairly handicapped on his best form for Lynda Ramsden last but is better suited by this going. year and can make the first repay ment on the 40,000 guineas he was bought out of that yard for at the 2.00: GUINDA has been perform-Newmarket Autumn Sales.

ing well over an inadequate two mile trip and is certainly suited by this soft ground. Henrietta Knight's 4.15: RIGHT WIN, not disgraced in finishing 12th to Collier Boy in the Champion Hordle. loves this soft pair of Supreme Lady and Tel-licherry are the dangers. DONCASTER ground and holds a filmes advan-3.00: ACHARNE, who showed he tage over his rivals. handles a yielding surface when a highly respectable 11½ lengths sixth to Mons in the Group Two

4.45; COOL JAZZ, who showed his appreciation of an easy surface when landing a 33-1 shock in the Group 3 Diadem Stakes at Ascot last September, will be hard to beat if in that sort of form.



Fregmanch continues to progress yet have 10 to 10 the name of the more than no can chew this time. That tooked the case with the notice TEINEIN after no had finished a moderate fourth behind Reep Me in Mind in a Vinicamor handway in Jeruany, but that was a stony-han root and there? To progressive jourgeter part to truncation and he bounced straight back when going under a short had to Decrumento in a good natives harder at Chestium a fortugating, batting both garesty after colleng beater hashow up the tunion. He has scope for further improvement, Kingshold Pet ran out a ready without under a big weight from Telemon Gold and Twide a Night over the courter and straince three Levels up and work well for a long way off a 5th higher man behind Amanco in Sandown's imponal Cup a week there he is a rough som with grand conditions in insist around an expected to confirm that earlier form. Telemo Gold went on to finish a mechable severth in the County Hundle of Chellichians, where Kadastori was not all that to before in terms place after doing a for of the dorskey work. It is asking a lot of flaroutiment to reproduce his second to Source Sibility Affired last year with only one turn under my bett strate, and an good form as Star Market is in at present he is having his agres raccor auto consucrably.

Selection: TEIREIN

	200	HOECHST MARES 'NH' NOVICE HURDLE FINAL (HANDICAP) (CLASS C) £15,000 added 2m 5f
1	50-1175	
5	10-£371	MESS OPTIMEST (24) The Pour Party store I formation (21 9 R Dummondy
3	151713	GOLDENSWITT (19) (CD) Mr. S. March S. Sentra S. 11 6 A P. McCoy
4	27711	SUPPLEME LADY (68) The Suitant Lat Partenant Mas Hyper 5 11 6 F Titley
5	00-1205	SWING QUARTET (21) P. C. 22.0. V with Dorn 5 13 4
5	1521	HENRETTA HOWARD (10) MIT Sons From the times (175 D HERA 6 11 1 . G Hogan (3)
7	F52-261	SALL BY THE STARS (16) (D): TEFF (cor.) Force T110 D Gallagher
8	0-5126	MISS DISREY (37) 1/200 CONET TO EE TO 10 12
9	822 221	ROYAL AG NOS FOLL PORS SCHOOL TO COMPLETE COMPLETE COMPLETE S 10 12 . G Tormey (3)
10	00.353	TELLICIERRY (24) - 50'5 Size 5, mag. Visit York 7 10 10 Mr. J Collety (5)
15	5016	CARMEL'S JOY (25) -Vit Alar Garde T George T 10 10 M A Properate
13	0-01551	HARVEST VIEW 18, 2000 3 to the Carbon
13	600f-1	BELINDRE CLOUD (17) VITALEYS INSTITUT VIPAGE 7 10 1 C Maude
12	0:25	PAYLONA (21) YO YA 224 Master & Face 6 10 2 D O'Sullivan
15		CHES QUEST (66) LOCK ROLL ON CONST. Grace I Ethersgam & 10 h R Rousie
16		CATES ROSE (24) A. C.F: DALLET 6 100
17		MERILENA (16) (D) 1 5
28		
:	0-0-552	CEPROWEN (T) - Vis C Green and T Contract \$ 200 W Hampleeys

13 00-95.1 CERTWENT (7) VIS CRETIFICE (10 10 0 W Humphreys - 19 fectored - 15 fectored

NISS OPTIMIST boxed a number for the first SUDE.

NISS OPTIMIST boxed a number for the first when hadving to from Miss Bredenidi and Harrest View into ress than 15to beder off in the first when hadving to from Miss Bredenidi and Harrest View into ress than 15to beder off in the Harristo quarter ran in testing conditions for more than 15to and Tellichery. She downed be better ability for all Wetherby mail slowly run race and the first stands as well the number up, only a pound better in, pointing or to wish in obtaining that stands are a shorter for at Sandson. Supremio Lady is undeficated in the tabletance for the first stands in the tabletance for a shorter for at Sandson. Supremio Lady is undeficated in the tabletance are for the first sold of the first standson for the first standson in the first forms the first standson from the first Rose and Miss Brechnet, show the first stands of the first standson from the first Brechnet pass in close perbetch frames the girls make and Miss Specific She ran but a constantial with interest for the decision of first standson to the first standson for the first standson for the first standson for an action of the first forms and the first form sat at the specific for an area of a non-more given rank self first standson for the first standson for the first standson of the first standson for the first standson of the first standson for the first standson for the first standson for the first body as a staff cent set.

Selection Miss Optimist

7 35 FINAL NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS D) (DIV I) £4,000 added 2m

Ŀ	2.35	110yds Penalty Value £3,155
ı		BONGROVE MAN (10) So Proved upon that the 100 6 11 7 J Osborne
3	22,22	DREAM RIDE (24) Ben Timbert & Christopher Davis Chemistry 9 11 7 R Dumicody
i	- FO	EQUINOX (24) Seuso Syroux: Us Villoret 5 12 7 Julius - Lander - D Pyrne
4	5 50	CEMERAL SALUTE (72) 10% (Veneza) & Sept of 11 7 A P McCoy
5	00P2	CHANCEY BELL MALE TO SERVE THE SERVE THE TANK A FIRE COMMENT OF THE SERVE TH
5	0	MANE A STAND (164) 240-2 1/2005 11 7
7	P	MASTER GOODENOUTEN (19) The Vocantive's Patterston A Foster 5 11 7 Williamston
8		ROYAL BAROUR PORT STATE FLOOR E 117
9	10	SEVEN BROOKS (304) A 1811 . Fax 6 11 7

63	THYNE IN MOTION (18) No: Warrang Veherran C Brooks 5 11 7
(-30	IPHAM RASCAL (24) R 5 3 Y 2 WOOTH D GENCOMS 5 11 7
272.26	NAMA (21) The Sate Sate Man 15 Doys 6 11 2
	CADDY'S FIRST (28) For Comits Four Fortential 5 Meller 4 10 13
	POLY ANANSHAA (66) .M C Bares to Bares 4 10 12
	RAMSDENS (15) Jun Engern Ularmonianes 4 10 13
	- 15 declared -
	Property A. S. Dandaren Man, C. S. Country Dark R. S. Marke 40.3 Thomas in Marting

BETIME: 9-1 Press Ride, 4-1 Bosgrove Man, 6-2 Granby Red, 8-1 Nahla, 10-1 Tayns in Motion, 13-1 Caddy's Forst, Make A Stand, Remedies, 20-1 General Salete, Royal Banker, 25-1 Equinox, Poly Amarshaa, Upham Pastes, 33-1 others, 1995: Note Paner 5 11 7 P Holley 8-1 to Elevanti 17 ran

3.05 MARCH NOVICE HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS D) £5,100 added 2m 4f Penalty Value £3,818

Pride, 12-1 The Brad 1995: Formige Stamp 8 10 8 # Maguire 9-1 (F Murph), 9 min

3	3.35	FINAL NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS D) (DIV II) £4,000 adds 2m 110yds Penalty Value £3,136
1		COUNTRY STAR HATH Prince Fanc Sameral C Brook 5 11 7 G Brad
- 5	3.	CRISSON KING (329) Seron Sansbury: T Forzer S 11 7
7		DREAM HERE (10) 17 Good J Fox 8 11 7
•	6.0	GENERAL SHERLEY (122) :P Hage: P Hedget 5 11 7
7	2165	HARLEQUIN CHORUS (14) Harlequin Schware Consultants (10th 6 11 7
3	2440.00	PARTICULAR CHARGE IN CONTROL IN CONTROL CONTROL OF S 11 Francia Lie Upin
3	2-10-21	INTERMAGEC IS) IBF) INTS J & Cleary J Fox 6 11 7 S Fox (
4	13-02	MAYB-MAYB (10) U Nerter I Nevtle 6 11 7
8	73.102	PEACE LORD (29) ISn Peter Goodings Mrs P. Harte 6 11 7 G Hogon C
õ	5 6000	PREFRAIS MISSION (22) U M Finneau G Balong 6 11 7 B CRIfe
1)	3.32	SPANISH BLAZE (691) (The State Parvette) Mr. M bone 8 11 ? D But
11	200	STORM TREER (14) (W R Partnersho) S Wellor S 11 7
10	524	THE CAPTAIN'S WISH (17) (Mes A ! Marrey) D Nottoison 5 11 7
23	040	TREGORY (7) :Mrs Actes Bardan Mrs A Barday 6 11 7
2=	-0.600	WHISPERING COURT (21) (Court Jeste's Partnersho 2, A Turnet 6 11 7 L Harw
25	0.0	RAISE THE LIMIT (28) (Then Vincengor) 5 Bears 7 11 2 B Featon (
16		ABBEY STREET (38) (8 T Seven-Brown, O Sherwood 4 10 13
27	e.	KRATON BARDEN RUSA; LLT) C M (Mison) I Casey 4 10 13
32	625	THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPERTY O
	.700	PLEASANT SURPRISE (FR) (10) (BF) (Waget Hanks Portroistic) M Pipe 4 10 13 Waget
19	2	RESING DOUGH (17) Byan Period G L Moore 4 10 13 A P McG
20		TIME LEADER (The Big Time Boys) R Diport - 10 13

- 20 declared
BETTING: 4-1 Country Star, 11-2 Rising Dough, 8-1 Internagic, 13-2 The Captain's Wish, 8-1 Abbey
Street, 10-1 Crimson King, Peace Lord, 12-1 Herioquin Chorus, 16-1 Mayb-Mayb, General Shirley.

4.05 SPRING STANDARD OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (CLASS H) £2,600 added 2m 110yds Penalty Value £2,626

25 declared — 25



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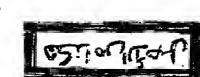
DONCASTER 101 201

NEWBURY 102 202 BANGOR 103 203 LINGFIELD 104 204

#INDEPENDENT

AUAL RESULTS SERVICE

HONNE SEED THERE



Ainslie determined to put on Laser show

here seem to be two main images of vachting to the general public. The participants either all wear blazers and flannels, are called Rupert. and sip pink gins at Cowes every summer, or afternatively. if they are a little more serious. have long bushy beards, wear thick woolly jumpers, and probably serve up fish fingers to their hungry crew.

Ben Ainslie would like it to be known that, when it comes to the serious stuff, both the above images are now history. For a start, Ainslie is only [9] years old but, despite his age. is seen to be a major contender for an Olympic medal in Atlanta this summer in the Laser class. Not just any medal either, but the shiny one.

Tall, lean, determined and fit. waves is vastly different from what you and I have thought. "Whenever I'm not actually sailing. I run for 90 minutes each

'It's a bit like grand prix racing There's a lot of bumping, colliding and verbal exchanges'

morning, followed by a twohour weights session in the afternoon," he explains, in an understanding and tolerant

"I concentrate on heavy endurance sessions and high intensity heart-rate work. To give vourself the best advantage in a Laser Jinghy, you should weigh around 78 kilos. Much less or more, and you will slow yourself down, It's rather like a boxer making the weight. I have a low fat, high carbohydrate diet, and I am very fit because I have to be."

He pauses for a second while this image-shattering informa- and close." tion is digested, before adding the enup de grace, "People assume sailing is like playing bowls. I can assure you it isn't.

There's much more. When it names to racing Ainslie, despite his tender years, already hus a reputation for taking no pris-oners. He may be softly spoken: sitting in his parents' livingroom, but out on the seas, travelling at speeds up to 20 knots. in his highly mandeuvrable. and colliding, and a fair amount becomes a fiercesome com-

aren't personalised," he con- ten seen in this light." tinues. "In other words, we use whatever boat is given to us at spite his little-known name toany event. Nobody has an ini- day. Ben Ainslie might well



Ben Ainsile with his father, Roddy: 'People told us Ben would be a world champion one day. He was always determined, and totally fearless'

tial advantage, because they are all exactly the same. It therefore boils down to who can catch the right winds, and that makes the racing very tactical

How close? "Very. At the Olympies the races will be shorter, lasting about an hour. There will be a lot of changing angles and rounding markers. and I expect a lot of us to be doing it together, in a tight group. I'll definitely be getting stuck in there and lighting my way to the

"It's a bit like grand prix racing. There's a lot of bumping 13ft 10in, single-sail dinghy, he of verbal exchanges during competition, especially if you are seen to be racing aggres-"In the Layer class the boats sively, It's fair to say that I'm of-

It's also fair to say that, de-

become one of the British stars of the Olympics. He may still be a teenager, making him the youngest member of the British vachting team by some distance, but his sailing curriculum vitae would make a 30-year-old very proud.

The world Laser Radial champion in 1993, Ainslic then leapt up a standard to the Lasers, coming second in the World Youth Championships in 1994, and winning the same title last year. Initially gearing himself towards the 2000 Sydney Olympics, he suddenly discovered that he could more than mix it with the grown-ups, winthe most determined youth sailor ning the national Olympic trial last year, and then the St Carr, the British Olympic sailing Petersburg regatta this year, team manager. "He's the most before then recording two second places in the Miami Jim Saltonstall, Britain's Olympic Olympic regatta and the Auck- coach, shares this view, "I'm

young man to be feared, and a definite gold medal contender. The point about Laser rac-

ing is that anyone in the top 10 has a chance of winning. Ainslie goes on tu explain, "The guy who came second in the World Championships last year finished 120th in the Olympic regatta a fortnight before. But even though I have so much time on my side if it doesn't work out in Atlanta, the way I've been performing recently suggests I in in with a good shout of a result."

Others have no doubt. "He's I've seen in 20 years," said Rod talented sailor of his generation." land Olympicsail. On this sort convinced he'll turn into a great of consistent form. Ainslie is a sportsman," is his verdict.

Which makes Ainslie's introduction to the sport even more unlikely. His father, Roddy, was himself a sailor of the highest standard. At the helm

of "Second Life", he finished seventh in the inaugural Whitbread Round the World Race in 1973. In later years, he took to holidaying with his young family aboard their 40ft vawl. Roddy takes up the story. 'We'd sailed down from our home back then in north Wales

to Cornwall. It was a trip we often made, but this time it went terribly wrong. A lobster pot wrapped itself round the propeller, and we ended wrecked on the rocks. We all had to bale out and watch as the cruising boat broke up and

That's a bit embarrassing for a Whitbread skipper, isn't it Roddy? "Well, I was OK sailing down the middle, it was just

round the edge where I had problems. The local press all times until, at 15, he moved to covered the occasion and, as a

It came from a lady who sugcome and join the local sailing club at Restronguet, on the Fal estuary. Whether she felt his father's sailing example left much to be desired is not known, but it turned out to be a significant moment in the short life of

Ainslie Jar.

result, Ben received a phone

Young Ben began sailing in Optimists, the children's dinelty, helped by his enthusiastic parents. Roddy tle, the junior championships in

Photograph: Peter Jay Championships a record four

"We couldn't see it back then, but people at Restronguet were telling us that Ben would become a world champion one day," Roddy adds. "He was always determined, even back then, and totally fearless. At that age, you can understand some of his colleagues being nervous about sailing on rough, Cornish seas. But not Ben."

His son cuts in. "I was totalbesotted with sailing. What helped was the fact that I had moved down to Cornwall. By 11, best. It created a healthy rival sailor to the Games, let alone he had won his first national ti- ry. We'd go out sailing in the one who fully expects to return winter months, even when it was with a medal. The name Ben

lanta. Spending around £12,190 a year on his sport, Ben just about breaks even by living at home, and grarefully accepts grants from, among others, the Royal Yachting Association and the Sports Aid Foundation.

But then again, he does have "Team Ainslie" behind him. You may notice that the whereabouts of the Ainslie home has not yet been mentioned. This is because ir keeps changing. Right now, it is a rented collage in Lymington, just on the southorn edge of the New Forest, mut only until the end of this month. Roddy sold his wood products companies, retired early, and now acts as Ben's taxi driver. secretary and second coach, Wherever Bon is sailing, he and his wife set up camp. They have turned themselves into true sporting travellers, wan-dering the world's coastlines like Berbers in the Sahara. So, while Ben sets off for

South Africa, where the World 'I was totally

besotted with sailing. We'd go out sailing in the winter even when it was snowing'

Championships begin on 10 April, an event where he hopes to rubber-stamp his Olympic medal credentials, Roddy and Sue leave for Savannah, Geor-

"The first thing we'll do is drive to the first motel we see before later finding a house to rent for us and Ben right up until af-ter the Games." Roddy explained. "That will be Ben's base for the campaign. Then, when Lymington and move into the hotel across the road from here until we find somewhere else. It could be anywhere.

That is some commitment. With parents prepared to become nomads for the cause. and with an obvious talent, track records and desire to reach the highest pinnacle of his sport. Ben Ainslie has every right to expect a glorious summer's sailing off the coast of

This country has always enjoyed a good tradition of the Optimists Class, beating children considerably older than him in the process. He took the same title the following. Snowing. Ainslie might not mean very much ontside sailing circles. By the end of the first week in the same title the following hold, turned into a full-time August, however, it could be a year, and entered the World sailor, and set his sights on Atvery different story.

WEEKEND FIXTURE GUIDE

Football

Matches not on poors coupons: 3 Q unless GM VAUXHALL CONFERENCE Kettering v Kidderminster Morecambe v Famborough Runcom v Hednesford

FA LIMBRO TROPHY FOURTH ROUND

Fibron 107 being 107

CISS LEAGUE Premier Division: Bishon's Scothack Hayes Contracton -Bosenum Anod, 179 fact, 17970-8 Gordation -Bosenum Anod, 179 fact, 17970-8 Gordation -Bosenum Anod, 17970-9 Hendon's Multiple and Hersami, Historia Crass, in Agstorian is Ayesbury, Purfleet Division: Abergion Town y Thame Ademson Town v Thame Ademson Town v Withorleads, Bashings of United Bashings of Uni

Smanara - Windfordt Collyn Bar v Spenny-moor, Grinsbornugh Innety v Barbur, Guss-tra - Oroj states - Knoessey - Miston, Licel -Naytock - Frast Divisione - Ashini - Junet - Sandon - Begin PMI, Essimood Toam s Ameri-yan IP. Fardey Cetur v Raddiffe Bornugh, Grein - Warmigton, Harrogate Town v Ficel-tiood. Lincaster City - Limoon United Retire-field - Curton Ashton, Workmigton v Windley 28x.

Househier Tourn (Marcher Traffic Medical) Pulghtun and Diamonists Meurich AFC vi Gravesurd and Normonest Science Tournists
Stated, Middland Divisions Beroworth Specingham Tournis Briggoria, Young Gertham:
Hindring Tournis Briggoria, Young Gertham:
Hindring Tournis Briggorian, Young Campan,
Arang China Briggorian, Young Command,
Arang China Briggorian, Station Coloniest, Southough Numerical Borruch, Tammonth y Lescester Uct. Southern Divisions
Asriand vi Clevedon: Brantice vi Watery, Cindeforth Watercovilian Fisher Faresham: Fleet
Fishest China Rovers, Hanantiv Transbridge;

FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP

UNILET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE First DI-

mier Division: Amitrorie Vietare v Huchrält Amodr v Hatfleo Marri, Astheid v Pickenng Lverseige v Trockier, Martis, v Hallom, Norn Fernis, v Glosshoughon Welfaret Cs-sett Albon v Ossett Town; Sheffield v Dena-try, Stocksonge v Belper.

JEWSON EASTERN LEAGUE Premier Divi-Jewson Estern Leader Premary Suddurg Store Des & Wooser, Falenham y Suddurg Wanderen, Hadleigh & Reimmarkt, March V Loneston, Storemarket y Harvich and Porke-ston, Figure & Great Yarmouth; Welton y Hal-stead Woodant & Woodantee

ston; Tiptree's Great Yarmouth; Wetpon v Har-steed Whorbarn v Woodbinder.
INTERLINK EXPRESS MEDIAND ALLIANCE:
Barwell v Hinchies' Adtienc; Blakenell v Strat-forc. Bolimies' St Michael's v Shepished Drimor Halesowen Harmers v Rushall Olymor Oddown v Stapentall; Persince v Ro-ceater Sonnal v Sandwell Borough; West Mid-hards: Police v Bolateril Sotts, Whileshall's Crisectown.

Academy v Neith
MeEWAN'S NORTH CUP Final; Lossiemouth
v Clachneouddin (at Forras Mechanics FC).
SMIRNOOTF IRISH LEAGUE Prentier Division:
Bangor v Clentoran, Chifornille v Portadovin;
Crusaders v Linferet; Glenaven v Ards. First.
Division: Ballyclore v Jamet Ballyniera v Linev;
Distillery v Colorane, Omagn v Camet.
Readure Of Will ES: Abanet with Company. LEAGUE OF WALES: Aberysturth v Cornaln's Quar, Caemarton v Lanell: Cembes Buy v Con-wy Ebbw Vale v Newtown (2.30); First v Lansand

Today's pools check

Arsenal v Newcastle Bolton v Sheffield Wednesday

P Postponed uplaying tomorrow, pools ENDSLEIGH INSURANCE LEAGUE

vision: Hadsham v Burgess Milt Hassocks v Ringmen; Harsham v MCA v Arundel; Languey Soorts v Three Bridges; Calawood v Mile Oak: Portfield v Windonams, Southwack v Crowtonough; Stamco v Payham, Wick v Eastbourne Town NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE Pre-

Top Stocksbroge / Betjer: MoRTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE First Di-vision: Deachpool Rovers / Burscough; Boo-les Eastwood Henter; Danven v Pennin, Holber Old Burs v Nartwach; Mossley v Prescot, New-castle Town v Kritsgrove; St Helens v Glosson North End. Softons - Chadderton; Sterliners-date v Rossendole.

Christiani, Harris Countres League Pro-mies Division: Boston (1986 y Wootton, Decborough e Stamfort, Erneston) (Ster-arts and Lloyds Corby Hear us on Michaella, Long Buckey y Porton: Minness Blackstone y Cogenhoe; Newton: Pagnet v Wellingtomustr. St Neots v Raunds: Spaking v Northamoton

Spencer: Stodoid v Bourne
GREAT MILLS LEAGUE Premier Thission:
Bristol Manor Farm v Westbury: Calno v Bridport; Chippenham v Bodetor: Frome v Bodveit; Pautton Rovers v Crediton United;
Tomigon v Elmore.
PRESS AND JOHNAL HIGHLAND LEAGUE:
Bros Rangers v Hurthy; Buche Tristle - Fort
William; Frosenburgh v Bign City, Paterhead
v Deveronale; Rodies v Nam County, Wick
Academy v Ketth

SECOND DIVISION 18 Blackpool v Carrisle

20 Bristol Cry v Wresham
21 Chesterfield v Bristol Rovers
22 Crewe v Bradford Cry
23 Hull Cry v Walsall
24 Oxford Utd v Burnley 29 York v Notts County ..

> fraid; Holywell v Cwmbran; Portnmadog v Bar-y (2.30); Rityl v Alan Lido; Ton Pentre v Birron Ferry, Postponed: Little: Cardiff v Barrigor City, BORTI GAIS LEAGUE OF BRELAND Premier AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION First

Rugby League SILK CUT CHALLENGE CUP Semi-finat Brad-ford Bulls v Leeds 12.131 (at Alfred McAlpine stackum, Huddersfield).

Rugby Union

Rugby Union
PILKINETON CUP Semi-finals: Barn v Goucester (3.0). London irsh v Leocster (3.15). PILKINGTON SHIELD Semi-finals: Heiston v Welangborough 0.5 (2.30) i.at Bridgharderi; Nedicals v Old Centralains (2.20) i.at Wassield: COURAGE CLUBS: CHAMPIONSHIP National League Three Mayors V Select (3.0): West Hardepool v Harlequins (3.0): National League Three: Norhamoton v Bedford (3.0); National League Three: Norham (3.0): Roberton (3.0); Rochmond v Coventry (3.0): Roberton (3.0); Rochmond v Coventry (3.0): Roberton (3.0); Rochmond v Coventry (3.0): Roberton (3.0); Rochmond (3.0); Lordon (3.0); Lordon Welsh v Reduct (3.0); Lordon (Welsh v Reduct) (2.15).

(2.15).
SWALEC CUP Quarter-finals: Uaneti v Cordif (2.30): Neath v Durwayt (2.30). Newtondge v Pont, and (2.30). Newtondge v Pont, and (2.30). Newtondge v Heinerker WELSH LEAGUE First Division: Swansee v Bridgend (2.20): Treorchy v Aberbiery (2.30): Second Division: Crozz Pays. NU TENNENTS 1556 CUP Fifth round: Me-

LENGTOIN (3 6).
INSURANCE CORPORATION IRISH LEAGUE INSURANCE CORPORATION IRISH LEAGUE First Division: Elasters College, 35 May, 5 College (2.30); Cork Corpolation v Gamourer (2.30); Instaments (2.00 Mesley (2.30); Shan-roon v Balymenta (2.30), Young Mundler v Cars-downe, (2.30); Second Division: Elective Rangers v NIFC (2.30); Ungamon v Ference College (2.30); Malance v Cardon (2.30); Sur-day 6 Wol. **Clement (2.30); Wannerers v Gra-sioner (2.30).

day 8 Wid. From the Cash Pharmagnes of all scores received. 2019. Barring villations Stanford 13 01; Bins N. London Scotthar 13 01; Camberne vi Pentarce (2.30); Barring villations (2.30); Camberne vi Pentarce (2.30); Barring Acodem cacly Brothard and Bingley (3.01; Haved vi Perto (3.0). Proceed villations of 3.01; Montagnes (3.30); Montagnes (3.30); Montagnes vi Spottend (3.0); Managham vi Oroth (3.0); Managham vi Oroth (3.0); Managham vi Oroth (3.0); Managham vi Oroth (3.0); Spottend villation of all conditions of the standard villation of the standard vill

SECOND DIVISION .

THIRD DIVISION 40 Rochdale v Wigan....... 41 Scunthorpe v Fulham BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE

PREMIER DIVISION
42 Aberdeen v Hibernian ...

45 Motherwell v Celoc FIRST DIVISION

Hockey

Matonal LEAGUE Second Division: Beeston

v Orton and Viest Wanners (12.0): Buchards v
Doncaster (1,0): Brooklands v Harleston Magpoet (1.6): Brooklands v Harleston Magpoet (1.6): Chy of Potentiaths v Harleston Magpoet (1.6): Chy of Potentiaths v Harleston Magferbrands v Crosta, (12.45): Harmastead and
Westmester's kea (12.30): Odden Union v Bromlev's (12.0): sough v Edgestein (1.45):

WOMMEN'S NATIONAL LEAGUE Premier Division

Brooknes's Hightown (2.0): Chiton v Bassom Leostre (12.20): Iossent v Storge (12.0):
First Division Reserved Switzershall v Conletting (1.45): Chelmstond v Sunderland Bedards (11.45): Earney of Storge (12.0):
Troy part v Bucharts (1.30): Second Division

Andage v Anchorg (2.0): Easing v Otton (12.0):
Sternscod's Loughborough Students (12.0): St

Wommen's MIDLANUE Premier Division; Bed
WOMMEN'S MIDLANUE Premier Division; Bed-

wors v Pescing (3.0).

WOMEN'S MIDLAND Premier Division: Sectors v Tamerch; Corrson Rambers v Pevent;
Hampton-Poten v Balsam Leicester, Prokarok v Kettening. WOMEN'S NORTH First Division: Newcastle
Con Valley: Ponyon v Liverbool: Sheffield v
Cantsle; York y Biscioum,
WOMEN'S EAST Premier Division: Besteyheath

Wonder's South First Division: Camberley v Winctings H3; Cry of Portsmouth's Dulwich, Hampstead, and Westminster v Worthing: Southampion v Handric Windfester v West Win-TRYSPORTS WOMEN'S THREE COUNTRES

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Men's First Division NATIONAL LEAGUE Man's FIRE DIVISION COUNTY VIBER (T.30), Clonder, Pounds e villente (9.0), Plymouth vivial (1.30); Schert Stocken (S.C) Women's First Division: Northampton vi Plymouth (5.0); Spethone - Sheffleid (6.0); Tharms Valley vi London (5.45).

ice hockey **ERITISH CHAMPIONSHIP PLAY-OFFS Group**

At Fife v Basınıştoke (7.15); Notlangham Sheffield (6.30), **Group B:** Cardiff v Nowcas Shemen (19,50), Group as Common (5,45). Pro-motion/relegation play-offs Group A: Bracinell v Eledoum (6.0); Mitton Keynes v Huiddord (6.3); Group B: Dunthes v Stough

- East Strlingshire v Queen's Park ..

COCA-COLA CUP FINAL Leeds v Aston Villa (5.0) 'a

FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP
Manchester Utd v Tottenham (4.0) ... ENDSLEIGH INSURANCE LEAGUE TIRST DIVISION huddersfield v Grimsby (1.0)

Speedway YORKSHIRE TROPHY First leg: Bradford v Hull 17.30). CHALLENGE: Swindon v Reading (7.30).

Other sports RALLYING: Verbrait Raily of Wales. SQUASH: Equitable Life Super Senes play of Frails Harderdy. SWIMING: Entish Olympic thats (Shelfield).

TOMORROW

GREAT MRLIS LEAGUE Premier Division: Chip-penham v Barnstaple (3.0). BORD GASS LEAGUE OF BRELAND Premier Divisions Coft City v Athlone (3.15): Universi-ty Colege Dublin v Sign Rovers (3.15). UK LUYUN WOMEN'S FA CUP Semi-final: Croydon v Ipsarch (2.0) rat Dubvich Hambat). **Rugby League**

INTERNATIONAL MATCHES: England women y France (1.15); England men v India (3.15) (at Maton keynes Sciousiv). SURREY CUP FINAL: Old Crantaghans v Wok-

BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Chester v Newcrette r5 0: Sheffield v Manchesse: (6, 25); Hemel v Lenesser (1, 30); Lundon v Berningham (5, 0); National LEAGUE: Morris First Division: Cycla Palace v Mrd Sussen (4, 0); Women's First Division: Notungham v Spethome (4, 0); Sheffield v Borling and Ologenham (4, 0); Tyria and Wear v Plymouth (2,0).

ice hockey

BRITISH CHAMPIONSHIP PLAY-OFFS Group At Fife v Notingsam (6.30), Sheffield v Basingstoke (6.30), Group Bt Cardiff v Humbersde (6.15), Newcaste v Duman, (6.30), Promotionfrelegation play-offs Group At Blackburn v Gudford (6.0), Mittan Keynes v Brackmell (6.0), Champ Bt Menchester v Dumines (6.0), Swriden v Sleugh (6.0). Speedway

Basketball Kenyans - Sally Barsosio and

PREMIER LEAGUE: Ipsylich v Cradley Hearth and Stoke (3.45). Other sports Med November, seeing England run out without him will be ble Trafalgar Square without Nelson's Column. SQUASH: Equitable Life Super Series play-off finals (Hatfield).

Modahl verdict might upstage main attraction

on Cape Town this weekend, where the International Amateur Athletic Federation counfuture in the sport the day after tomorrow's World Crosscountry Championships in nearby Stellenbosch.

Modahl, who is currently training in Albuquerque, has this week received assurances from the LAAF that they will take into account further scienufic evidence established since she had a four-year doping ban lifted on appeal by the British Athletic Federation last September. Britain's only realistic hope

for an individual medal at the championships, Paula Radcliffe, has seen her prospects dimin-ish in the last fortnight as injury and illness have disrupted her preparations. The 1992 world junior cross-

country champion has missed nearly a week's training following a fall in her last race, and a bout of food poisoning this week has hardly helped. "I don't know how well I'm going to run," she said. "All I know is it won't be as well as I would have hoped." Derartu Tulu, of Ethiopia, is set on retaining the title she won in Durham last year, with two

British athletic interest centres Mike Rowbottom on two major issues to be settled in Cape Town this weekend cil will discuss Diane Modahl's Rose Cheruyiot - her most expected either to clear Modahl

likely challengers. The meu's race sees Haile Gebreselassie, who has already broken two world indoor

records this season, leading the Ethiopian challenge against the Kenyans, who have won the men's team event since 1986. Kenya's Paul Tergat is confident, nevertheless, that he will defend his individual title. Tergat, who has set his sights on

heating compatriot John Ngu-

gi's record of five world titles.

said yesterday: "Defending the world championships is a foregone conclusion." The British men's team, with their new manager, Dave Clarke, have travelled in the hope of gaining a team medal, something they last did in 1992 when Clarke

himself helped earn a bronze. Clarke is now hoping that the likes of Andrew Pearson, Keith Cullen and the Commonwealth 10,000 metres champion, Roh Denmark together with "a little bit of magic", can make an impression on a fearsomely strong field in which Portugal and Spain look most likely to impinge upon e normal African domination. idence should put the matter be-IAAF Council members are youd any doubt. the normal African domination.

to run - upholding the BAF ap-

peal panel's decision - or refer the case to an arbitration panel. Modahi's case that faulty handling and storage of her urine sample by a Lisbon laboratory caused the huge testosterone levels found in her original test - a. case that convinced the BAF.

by two pieces of new scientific work since her appeal. Professor Simon Gaskell. from the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology, has involved samples from Modahl herself in tests showing that overheated storage conditions can lead to dramatic increases in testos-

panel - has been strengthened

terone outside the body.

And Professor Rod Bilton, of Liverpool's John Moores University, has proved that in nonsterile samples, testosterone levels can rise and fall, undermining accurate and reliable

drug testing.

Modahl said: The case against me was always weak. It should never have been brought in the first place. This new ev-

He looks terrified. I've never seen a champion look less like a champion. New York boding writer as Bruno chimbed into the ring for his world title reference.

He wasn't as good as 1989 but he

I'm doing wel, I'm construing to improve, and I'll fight amone that they put in front of me. Tyson. It guarantee my name will never be associated with bowing again. I've hated it since I was 17. Joe Beginer retires again after his latest defeat.

Cup quarter fine with our Leads.

It has squad as that of young faces. The squad as that of young faces. The serial as that of young faces. The serial of relegation. The serial is granded when I meet up.

If see like a granded when I meet up.

If you with them, I have both the within the color of the revenge, drillans Rainglans on his Engand called a payers Sulgaria. See S. S. I shakes: World Cup. capacity. If you when asked in his team had varied, he tost all my skills as a player. Alexander to best Australia in the final because der Vollow. Russian armis player as to their refusion to gar on the island.

QUOTES OF per losing in this week's St Petersburg to Immerracie in Russia.

It was putting on helf a some a year and it was getting a title out of hand: and it was getting a title out of hand: and it was getting a title out of hand: Com Montgomerle, the world No 2 golfer, who has lost weight as capteen.

If hed about 58 shots - it's about one one of them went in Steres McManamass on his first goal in a brace that set up I werpool s 3-0 FA.

Southammer manager, who is decreased in a brace that set up I werpool s 3-0 FA.

This squad is his or young faces.

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WAS STIOWING

Cook hungry for a slice of the Wembley action

between Leeds and Bradford carries a guarantce of fierce local feeling, but for no one will it be a more intense experience than Paul Cook.

The Bradford Bulls' fullback and goal-kicker will line up at Huddersfield this afternoon, intent on blocking the way to Wembley for the regime that gave him his chance and then promptly distarded him a few

months ago.
It has been a remarkable year for Cook, who is still only 19. At first, the arrival of Dean Bell and Hugh McGahan as Leeds' new management team seemed to have given him the opportunity he craved.

team ahead of more seasoned players, and performed so well that he was added to England's squad for the World Cup. No sooner was the ink dry on that entry in his CV, however, than Leeds had packed him off to Bradford in exchange for Carl Hall –a deal that caused some amazement both inside and

outside Headingley. "It came right out of the blue and I couldn't quite believe it at the time," he said. "There's still a bit of shock there hut, on the other hand, I'm grateful to Dean and Hugh for giving me my chance. If it wasn't for the start they gave me, I wouldn't be anywhere near a Challenge

my career."

Cook still lives in Leeds and spends most evenings practising the skill that could bring his old club down on cocmy territory. "I like to practice kicking for an hour a day, if not at the club then out on a field in Leeds with my brother."

Important as his marksmanship could be in what promises to be a close match, it is Cook's all-round game that will be watched with the most interest as he develops over the next few years. The word from Headingley after the surprise of his de-parture was that the coaching staff had identified flaws in his technique, especially in defence.

He was promoted to the first Cup semi-final at this stage in Dave Hadfield talks to the Bradford full-back hoping to kick Leeds to defeat in today's Challenge Cup semi-final

> If there is any truth in that assessment, Bradford's coaching staff believe they can straighten him out, through the medium of one-to-one technical sessions that were not part of the routine at Leeds.

"They think nothing here of spending a couple of hours working on your game individually with you," he says, "On top of that, the team spirit here is like nothing I've ever known." If proving that they were wrong to let him go gives Cook one good reason to shine

against Leeds, then his personal Wembley history provides another. "I've been there four times - twice with Leeds and twice with England - each time

as travelling reserve," he said. "It has been frustrating to go there and not get on to the field and this is my chance to put that Brailford, as so often, have

other former Leeds players in their squad. Paul Medicy arrived. via Halifax, almost seven years ago, while Jon Scales made the short journey from Headingley

Brian Smith, might be happier if he could play another evel leeds man, the Cup-tied hooker, James Lowes, this afternoon, as well as another recent acquisition, Glen Tomlinson.

Even without them, there is an atmosphere of confidence at Odsal. Smith admits, however: They beat us three times last season and have been to Wembley for the last two years. They have to he regarded as favourites.

Leeds have lost rather too many important players from their side to look entirely convincing. With Lowes, Craig Innes and Garry Schoffeld all departed and Tony Kemp

some departments.

George Mann can be surprisingly effective at stand-off. however, and if Kevin Iro is in the mood Bradford will be hard-pressed to stop them mak-ing it three Wembley visits in three years. Clive Griffiths, the Wales

coach and former assistant at Warrington, has been named as coach of the new club in south Wales. Mike Nicholas, the former Wales and Warrington forward who has set up the new club and plans to announce his playing squad soon, said that Griffiths had always been the first choice for the job.

An Australian court has



granted a temporary injunction to stop Maurice Lindsay and the players so far signed to Super League setting up a com-petition of their own under the Global League banner. The full bench of the court will consider the matter further on

Second Division clubs split from NCA

England's Second Division clubs yesterday resigned en masse from the already emasculated National Clubs' Association, and m a move that may have their lot with the First Division

clubs, writes Steve Bale. At a stroke they thereby created a still more powerful bloc within - or against, depending on how you view it - the Rug-by Football Union as clubs and union confront each other about how the club game, which goes professional in just six weeks' time, is to be financed.

A meeting between the par-ties in London on Thursday, billed as the most important in this increasingly problematic process, reached no agreement other than to meet again next week. Such fundamental issues as contracts and broadcasting revenue still remain to be settled with the last resort being a hreakaway, now involving the leading 20 clubs, from the RFU.

What with the mass of the RFU's membership exceeding 2,000 having their say at tomorrow's special general meeting in Birmingham, the forces of disunion in English rughy appear to be in the ascendant at a time when Cliff Brittle, the grass-roots candidate who won the RFU executive chairman; ship at the last, aborted SGM in January, has this very week

publicly appealed for unity.
The NCA, which formerly had an important role in administering the Courage Championship while acting as a forum for the top 40 clubs, had already been rendered worthless by the resignation before Christmas of the First Division clubs, whose

powerful than ever. made their decision at a meeting at Moseley on Tuesday bul ment until after Thursday's meeting with the RFU. They will now form their own organisation, parallel with the First Division's, and have a minority stake – two votes between them, to be cast by Sir John Hall of Newcastle and Steve O'Neill of Bedford, compared with the

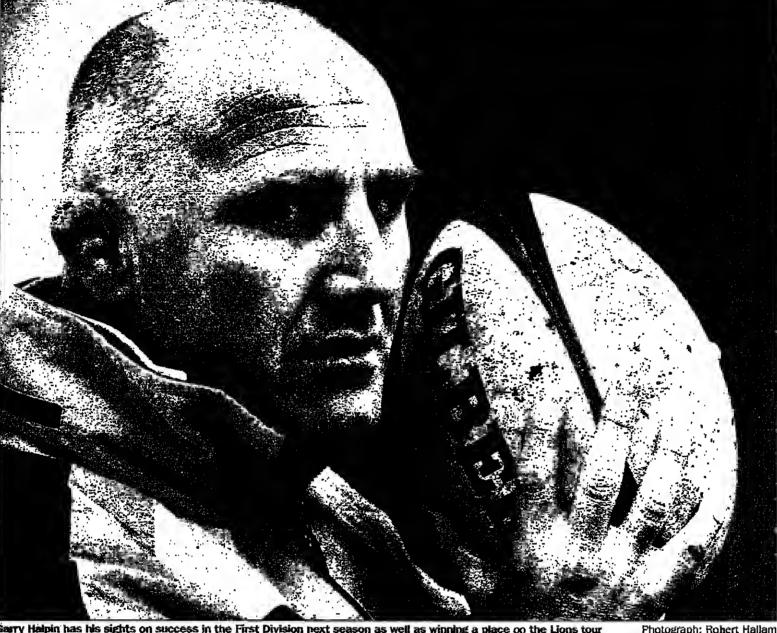
10 First Division clubs' one each - in English Professional Clubs Ltd, the company formed to negotiate with broadcasters

and sponsors.

Bristol, yesterday appointed the former England lock Mike Davis, best remembered as the skills may be. But ver man does 1980 Grand Slam coach, as assistant coach under the cluh's new coach and player-development director, Alan Davies, ... himself a former national coach

> TODAY'S NUMBER

The number of golfers who shot a hole in one at the same hole on the same day during a professional tournament in Soja, western Japan, yestertay. The hole so convincing famed was the par three



Garry Halpin has his sights on success in the First Division next season as well as winning a place on the Lions tour

themselves a prayer in this afternoon's Pilkington Cup semi-final against the league champions, Leicester at bargaining-power is now more. Sunbury, and given that their owerful than ever. own priority is the league their
The Second Division clubs expected eventuality would actually suit them fine.

Yet for their captain, this can be seen as the game that justi-fies a decision he estimates to have cost him a five-figure suro. It is some way short of big money in these semi-professional times but by his decision to opt out of international rugby for a season - and so concentrate on leading the Irish into the English First Division - it is Garry Halpin's personal sacrifice.

Halpin is not in the major league of well-heeled rugby identities not as a teacher of geography at St George's College in Addlestown, Surrey, however respected his pedagogical not ultimately expect to have lost a penny – provided always that London Irish gain the second promotion place after Northampton. So for altruism read an Irish punier's eye for the

main chance.
"By choosing to drop out of the Ireland set-up it's cost me maybe about £12,000," he explained. But put it this way: I would fully intend to make that money up next season. I make no bones about it. If we make the First Division, we have an agreement that I would be made up for this and that's been a big driving thing for me. Either way, I'll come out of this

This is no more than straight realism from a genuinely toprate fellow. Halpin has speculated on his and London Irish's future in the hope - now ex-pectation - of accumulating. If land centre, as chib coach had

Halpin ready to reap his rewards

Steve Bale meets the London Irish captain who faces a twin test of his ambitions in the Pilkington Cup against Leicester today

his prospects of being recalled next season.

A curious thing is that Halpin, 30 last month, should have stepped aside at the very moment he appeared at long last to have secured the place at tight-head prop which was first his in 1990 when he was playing back home in Dublin for the Wanderers club hefore crossing the water in 1991. He has since accumulated only 10 caps but as the last three of those were during the 1995 World Cup he approached this season favoured as the man in

It made no difference. "When I see Ireland playing at Twickenham, of course I would love to be playing," he said. "But I never doubted I did the right thing, both for me and for the club. The first thing was I was tired after the World Cup - 1 just didn't have the ambition and coupled with that there was

the captaincy of London Irish." In this regard the impressive presence of Clive Woodward, it totally committedly or you're no good to him. I very much agree with, and believe in, that

philosophy. "Because of this, everything was very clear for me. I could foresee too much hassle between

'I never doubted I did the right thing, both for me and for the club'

London Irish and the Irish RFU about player-availability and I didn't want to be in the middle of that club-v-country thing, wondering what to do when the IRFU wanted to take me out of important games. If L as captain, had to leave every time, it wouldn't work.

"I'm quite influential in our team. There are a lot of young guys who sort of look up to me, even if it's the first time in my

the Irish's semi-final has the corollary of showing Ireland what they have perforce heen missing, so much the better for the interval of the i ment I was willing to make for the club. They responded."

The result is second place in the Second Division, two points hehind Northampton (who have two games in hand) but more relevantly two ahead of London Scottish with four to play and a vastly superior points-difference. This is why next Saturday's visit to Wakefield is of greater significance to Halpin and his team even than today's showcase occasion.

It is also why the semi-final worries Halpin and Woodward so. On the one hand, players' minds have been so fixed on. and nerves so tight about. Leicester that training has been adversely affected. On the other players' minds are at the same time so fixed on the Wakefield match that the captain fears they may not do themselves justice

"If I had a choice, I would love to play this game after our league campaign. Its timing is appalling from a preparation point of view. We have what we know will he a very physical

have to go to Wakefield next weekend for another physical game. It bugs me that it's happened this way, that we can't hype this game as we should, and our mental preparation

could be a lot better.

The crowd approaching 7,000 who will fill Sunbury may beg to differ about relative significances but in any case the semifinal should provide the exiles and Woodward and Halpin in particular - with a vardstick of what to expect next season and how far they will need to go in strengthening a promotion-winning team.

To this end an influx of Irish and sundry non-UK players is expected once the First Division has been attained, so on second thoughts perhaps today's exercise will not be such a yardstick after all. Whatever, by next season Halpin hopes (against hope) that the club-v-country issue, which has bedevilled London Irish's relationship with the Irish union, will have been resolved. Then he will be ready to restake his claim.

"I know I've had a chequered international career but I was always very aggrieved at the people they picked ahead of me. In the ability to play rugby I'm as good as anyhody there and, internationally, I still have huge goals. I've taken my year out, I'm recharged, and I want to go on the Lions tour to South

Africa next vear. "I may not have that many caps but the only other tight head I would really regard in these islands is Darren Garlorth and if I got a Lions tour, five or 50 caps for Ireland wouldn't matter a damn." The uncapped Garforth, as it happens, plays for Leicester against Halpin today, so you could say the Li-

Leicester not a priority for **London Irish**

To London Irish of the English Second Division this afternoon falls a problem that has this season proved insoluble to all of the First Division, even Bath; how to stop the remorseless, grinding march of Leicester's magnificent forwards, writes Steve Bale.

As this Pilkington Cup semi-final, even though it is on home turf at sold-out Sunbury, is down the list of Exile priorities, even the Irish themselves do not annicipate a solution. Amazing to relate, given the height of its profile, but this is a game they would just as soon not have to play.

Still, if they dispose of all 200 barrels of Guinness on order (one for every 35 people in attendance) the coffers will have heen usefully swollen at a time when the Irish, expecting to join Leicester in the First Division, need every last punt, pound and penny in order to finance next season's new professionalism. Even if they wanted to reach

Twickenham to play the winners of Gloucester's visit to the holders, Bath, it would need more than advance knowledge of how Leicester will play. If we get tonked at this stage, I wouldn't read too much into it because they've heen tonking most teams all season," the Exiles' captain, Garry Halpin, said.

"There's nothing hugely spe-cial about it. They have a big pack that mashes everybody up. They take a couple of penalties. The opposition are then forced to try to play rugby, forced to make mistakes, Leicester score a try or ality that these great clubs are

two and get a hig-margin win.
"It's very basic and they actually don't do a lot, but stopping their hasies will be a huge problem." And so it will probably come to pass. Alas for the Irish, Dean Richards is fit to lead the league champions despite havthe England No S very well.

In the other semi-final Bath's annual progress towards the double brings a return to the Rec for Richard Hill, scrum-half in so many of their triumphs hut now Gloucester's coaching director. As he has been constantly reminded this week, for the first time since he first played at Bath for Exeter University he must remember to turn left into the vis-

itors' dressing-room. There is a poignancy here that comes not only from Hill's playing career but from his acrimonious departure from Bath, where he was chairman of selectors until in effect being frozen out of the club last September. His new team have the England A full-back, Mark Mapletoft, fit for the first time in a year - a return that may also do something

about Gloucester's goal-kicking. No such worries for Bath, who have been spared the embarrassment of deciding which of Mike Catt or Jonathan Callard to play at full-back by an injury to Richard Butland which leaves Catt no alternative hut to revert to outside-half. "Jonathan lands those inevitable early penalties and gives the team the necessary cushion and confidence to play attacking, all-round rugby from the start. Phil de Glanville, the Bath captain, said. One wonders

why, then, was he ever dropped. It is Swalec Cup quarter-final day in Wales, with Cardiff's visit to Lianelli far and away the biggest tie - and in its way a re-minder of the uncomfortable reno less disenchanted with the Welsh Rugby Union than the Baths and Leicesters are with

their Rugby Football Union. Unreality, meanwhile, will in trude when the RFU's special meeting in Birmingham tomorrow decides whether to permit the ing failed to train this week – a state of affairs that generally suits on a minute, didn't that happen everywhere else last September?

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India are the big draw at Milton Keynes hitting rock bottom in the 1986 changes to their Barcelona Jasoo Laslett is recovering from

IT COPMIT

te £9.5m National Stadium at ilton Keynes will open its mnational gates tomorrow en the England teams play st to India's men and

ince's women. The invitation to India, with series of Olympic medals tching from Amsterdam in 8 to Munich in 1972, should : the turnstiles clicking. After

World Cup in London, when they finished 12th and last, they have clawed their way back and were last year playing in the élite Champions' Irophy in Berlin where they finished in fifth place

- one place ahead of England Encounters with India of late have been very close, with the last four ending in draws. The most recent was 3-3 against Great Britam in the Olympic qualifier in Barcelona. The In-

serve goalkeeper, Ashlu Ballal.

The captain, the 31-year-old Pargat Singh, from the Punjab Police, with over 200 international appearances, is their most experienced player while the centre-forward Dhanraj Pillay, who had a season in the National League with Indian Gymkhana, is their most exciting.
Unfortunately England are.

squad, one of which is their re- a broken ankle, Simon Hazlitt pulled a hamstring in Tuesday's Army Cup final, Russell Garcia, Barcelona's player-coach, has not been released by his Spanish club -and Rob Thompson is getting married today.

The Great Britain players have been excluded from the England women's squad which is captained by Jane Smith for the first time, but should be too without four of their successful strong for a French side lacking dian team shows just two Barcelona squad. The captain several familiar names.

Scotsmen reach final The Scots' final opponents

Bowis

Scotland's Kenny Logan, Willie Wood and George Adrain will contest the first final of the World Bowls Championships in Adelaide tomorrow.

The only British team involved in the semi-finals produced a devastating display against South Africa's Theuns Fraser, Ashley van Winkel and Kevin Campbell to win 23-11. restricting their opponents to counting on just five

will be New Zealand's Andrew Curtain, David File, and Peter Belliss, who scraped home 18-17 against Australia's lan Taylor, Kelvin Kirkow and Stevie Anderson. Today' pairs semi-finals see

the defending champions, Richard Corsie and Alex Marshall from Scotland, take on the home country's Comeron Curtis and Rex Johnson, while Ireland's Jeremy Henry and Sammy Allen meet the Welsh duo Will Thom-

The state of the s

Newc a te:

Level of entertainment in Wilkinson's hands

Football Correspondent

The destiny of tomorrow's Coca-Cola Cup final, and whether it will be worth watching, could well be decided by the approach of one man.

if Howard Wilkinson, the Leeds manager, comes to Wembley prepared to let his team play, they could win their first domestic cup final in 23 years. If he comes scelding to stifle the opposition and filch a result, it could be the worst speciacle since ... well, sinc . Leeds played Liverpool at home in the FA Cup quarter-final a fortnight ago. After that goalless bore, Wilkinson sarcastically sug-

entertained, and lost by three goals". Which is precisely what happened when they went to Antield for the replay, not that Leeds were any more positive than at Elland Road.

Hopefully that brace of matches will have convinced Wilkinson that his team are better served by having the shackles taken off. They are capable of beating anyone on their day, but those days are increasingly rare and tend to happen when Manchester United are visiting Elland Road. Wilkinson has enough incen-

tive; this is his first Wembley final in 34 years in the game. "It means an awful lot, one hell of a lot, it's a match I want to win." In Gary McAllister, Leeds

gested his team should have have one of the finest midfielders in the country; in Tony Yeboah, they have one of the most explosive forwards. Gary Kelly is a pacy full-hack and John Lukic is an experienced,

in-lorm goalkeeper. Nigel Worthington is expected to play tomorrow in place of the injured Tony Dorigo, while Paul Beesley looks like making way for Lucas Radebe, who has been lifted by South Africa's African Nations success. The key decision is whether to play four of five at the back. If Wilkinson opts for five Leeds have come to stifle, especially if Mark Ford is also included as a marker.

Apart from a recent dip in form, largely provoked by a series of injuries. Villa have been consistent - consistently good. have to do that I could not sin- that individual spark looks, themselves, not the opposition.

"Only once this season have I picked a learn with the opposition in mind. That was against Arsenal, in the League at High-hury, and we lost, Brian Little, the manager, said. "I won't do that again. We make people aware of the opposition, at setpieces and suchlike, but we go out thinking of the way we play. I have confidence in the players. They know if they play well they can win.

"Howard thinks very deeply about the opposition and tends to change things - in one game against us hig Brian Deane marked Alan Wright. He will be

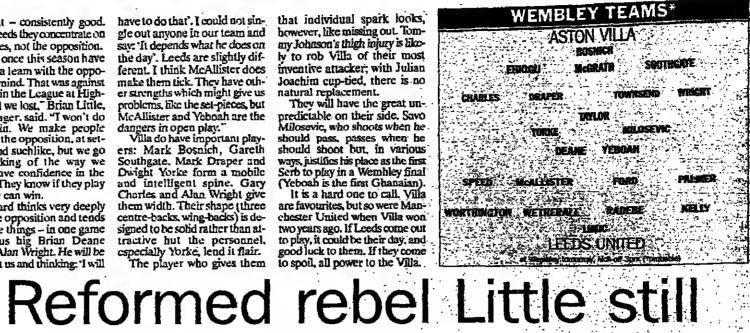
Unlike Leeds they concentrate on gle out anyone in our team and say: 'It depends what he does on the day'. Leeds are slightly different. I think McAllister does make them tick. They have other strengths which might give us problems, like the set-pieces, but

> dangers in open play."
> Villa do have important players: Mark Bosnich, Gareth Southgate, Mark Draper and Dwight Yorke form a mobile and intelligent spine. Gary Charles and Alan Wright give them width. Their shape (three centre-backs, wing-backs) is designed to be solid rather than attractive hut the personnel. cspecially Yorke, lend it flair. The player who gives them

however, like missing out. Tommy Johnson's thigh injury is likely to rob Villa of their most inventive attacker; with Julian Joachim cup-tied, there is no natural reptacement. They will have the great un-

McAllister and Yeboah are the predictable on their side. Savo Milosevic, who shoots when he should pass, passes when he should shoot but, in various ways, justifies his place as the first Serb to play in a Wembley final (Yeboah is the first Ghanaian)

It is a hard one to call. Villa are favourites, but so were Man-chester United when Villa won two years ago. If Leeds come out to play, it could be their day, and good luck to them. If they come to spoil, all power to the Villa.



Little: 'I'd still like to have my hair long but it doesn't go with the job'

Photograph: Allsport tury after signing him as an apprentice.

longing to let his hair down t was put to Brian Little, as he pre-pared to face a 50-strong media inquisition in the build-up to tomorrow's Coca-Cola Cup final against Leeds.

that this was the price of success.

"Not yet, it isn't," he responded, and even his soft Durham hurr could not disguise the fact that this was a man who had learned, through bitter experience. never to take anything for granted.

There are two ways of looking at Brian Little's career. The positive considers 300-plus matches with Aston Villa, 82 goals, a promotion and two League Cup winners' medals, and international recognition. It adds two championships and a promotion as a manager and the current Villa revival. The negative dwells on a talented player who failed to fulfil his potential and was then cruelly cut down through injury at 26.

He seemed sprinkled with stardust when, having won the World Youth Cup with England, he was capped at 21. But he played just 20 international minutes. The season after his injury Villa lifted the League title. They went on to win the European Cup, while Little was selling VIIla lottery tickets from a Mini Metro.

When he turned to management he was sacked two months into his first job and was a phone call away from leaving the game. Even after he found success, there was pain in the controversial move from Leicester to Villa.

All of which explains the transformation from cavalier player to roundhead manager. To meet Little now is to meet an accountant from central casting. He has short, greying hair, is neatly dressed, quictly-spoken, and exudes diligence and intelligence. The only thing Flashy about him is the name of his alsatian.

Yet, dig into the Much of the Day archives and there he is shire flapping outside his shorts, hair long even by the stan-dards of the hirsute 1970s, at times a full beard and moustache. Off the field he had a rebellious streak and regularly fell out with Ron Saunders, the manager.

"He was not someone I thought would be a manager," admits Allan Evans, his former team-mate and now assistant at Villa, Doug Ellis, the Villa chairman who



Glenn Moore meets the man who has turned from cavalier player to roundhead manager of Aston Villa

said the change was down to "maturity. As one gets older one does not do crazy things but you expect it from youngsters. He was also, recalled Ellis, "quiet, modest, almost shy, but I knew he had

a terrific tough streak. Discipline-wise I do not think you would find a stronger manager in the country. He does not say much but, by God, when he does they iump to attention." He is fair. He never slaughters play-

ers in public," said Evans, "but he will have a go behind closed doors." Little took over at Vil-

la in November 1994 with the team sliding towards relegation. He quickly brought in several What I should young players and the ed. Further re-building hut the foundations for laid at the Bodymoor Heath training ground. of those days'.

on long walks, explaining what was required of them, then he, John White, the Tottenham inside-forward, Gregory and Evans, would split up, taking forwards, midfielders and defenders ing golf. They both ghosted into posirespectively, and working on the system. Come the first day of the season, Villa, playing three central defenders with strikers, faced Manchester United. They out there knowing you can do well.

We have a group of players who want to progress, who want to be something. They are led by several guys who have been at the top and have a lot to offer. Most of the new lads are young international players whose previous clubs have not had the best of times. They have real talent, we have given them a stage,

While he could sign such players as Mark Draper, Gareth Southgate, Gary Charles and Tommy Johnson, more established talents could not be tempted. "We tried to get Les Ferdinand but he preferred Newcastle. I could understand that. But I hope, if we are trying to sign a player like that this summer, he will

want to come to Villa Park." It is one of the players be inherited who has shone brightest: Dwight Yorke. "He is revelling in the confidence we have in him. People say he is shy; he is anything hut. He is a happy fellow and very talented. Some

'I never achieved of the things he does are incredible. The other day he was standing in a dustbin keeping the ball drop was narrowly avent have as a player. up on his head 200 times king fivers off everytook place in the summer My motivation is body. Giving him confi-dence - and keeping it this season's success were from the memory in check - will bring the best from him." Little himself was a

> less explosive player. Ellis likens him to John who was killed by lightning while playtions, be had a great deal of pace over

five or 10 yards." Ellis said. The chairman appears to regard himwing-backs, three midfielders and twin self as a father figure to Little, which is not surprising since he first knew him were were 3-0 up at half-time. "It has all as a 14-year-old trialist, watched him stemmed from there," Little said, "Concourt and marry Heather, a former Vilfidence is a big factor in football, going la secretary, and signed his brother, Alan, unseen, just to get Brian.
The day of the signing his mum and

dad came down and I remember his mother saying, 'I'm very sorry, Mr El-lis. Brian will not sign for Villa. He does not want to leave home."

"He had already been with us 18 months as a schoolboy and I said: 'We can't have that. He may be shy the first few days hut he will soon get over it'.

leave. Now, if it was our Alan, he would go anywhere." At which point Filis asked if Alan could play football. Mrs Little. said yes, he's very good, but Villa's chief . scout said there was no record of him. Ellis turned to Mrs Little and said: "If-

I take Alan, will Brian sign?
"She said: 'That's different,' so I took Alan. He was with us three years." and I sold him for £8,000 to Southend. which was a lot of money then." Alan Little, the elder by two years, now man-

ages York City.

Brian stayed to make the England team but his potential went unfulfilled.
"I never achieved what I should have done as a player," he said. "Even before. the damaged knee finished me I did not... make the most of what I had. Not that I was a bad lad. I was just a bit laid back. My motivation now comes from the memory of those days, that is why I try so hard to do my job properly."

Ir is also because he feared he would never get the chance. After being sacked by Wolves: after seven matches as care-taker manager — he took a joh as a car salesman. Before he could start Bruce Rioch, a former team-mate, then manager at Middlesbrough, asked him to become reserve-leam coach.

That led to a job at Darlington, who had just been relegated to the Conference. "I knew if I failed, I might not get the chance to manage again." First he fired 20 players in an hour - "The first two took me 40 minutes; then I realised they did not want all the hull. The rest walked in and I gave them their letters.":

Then he spent £400 of his own money on a set of ties and towels in club. colours. "I wanted the players to feel good about themselves." Little also carried the goalposts to training on a local park. The reward was successive promotions, the first, crucial one, clinched with a goal three minotes from time at-Welling United.

That now seems long ago: Little is back at the club he loves, and at Wembley. There is just one thing troubling him. "I would still like to have my hair long, but it doesn't really go with the job," he confessed.

Still a rebel at heart; but a mature one.

Lukic relies on experience to answer the difficult questions

here is a question which John Lu-kic is forever being asked. Is it true. people want to know, that he was in the Munich air crash as an unborn

"You'd be amazed." Lukic said, shaking his head. "by the letters I get from solicitors and the like, wanting me to confirm it for their quizzes. There was a Lukie involved, a stewardess I think, but all they have to do to see that it's nonsense is look up my birthdate. If I had a pound for every time it's happened..."

The story has assumed the status of an urban myth. But tomorrow, if Leeds United overcome Aston Villa in the Coca-Cola Cup final at Wembley, Lukic really will become the answer to a legitimate quiz question. Who is the only player to earn both a championship and League Cup winner's medal with two dif-

The 6ft 4in Lukic was a towering presence in Arsenal's goal when Charlie Nicholas upset the odds and Liverpool in the 1987 final. Two years later he initiated Michael Thomas's title-clinching thrust at Antield. He was also ever-present as Leeds finished first in '92, a success made all the sweeter when set against the sadness of his first spell at Elland Road.

Now 35 and the steady antithesis of the flamboyant keeper personified by Villa's Mark Bosnich. Lukie goes back a long way with Leeds. To shortly after the Don Revie era, in fact. As a schoolboy being courted by the club, he travelled from his Chesterfield home to watch them beat Barcelona on their way

to the European Cup final of 1975. By the time the England youth international displaced David Harvey four years later, Leeds were in transition, as Lukic politely put it. "The club was living in the past. Everyone thought we had too many good players to go down, but we were relegated in S2. It took years to get over it.

As a developing talent in a declining team, Lukic was never likely to stay long



Phil Shaw talks to Leeds' veteran goalkeeper who has seen the best and worst of times at the club

"I went up with Karen, who's now my wife, to tell Eddie Gray (then manager) I'd decided to go. We were both tearful." Leeds lurched from crisis to crisis, be-set by poor results, hooliganism and debt: Lukic set about establishing himself

at Highbury. After understudying Pat Jennings he became the undisput-ed No 1, first under Don Howe and then, as Ar- have got is in senal embarked on a silverware spree. George my head. I can

It irks Lukic that the tell you exactly Graham team, particularly its awesome and what I have still-thriving back four, did not receive the cred- done in a game' it he feels they deserved. People called us boring

hut t prefer to say we were disciplined.
If attackers made stupid runs against us. that was their hard luck. But we never practised offsides - it was part of our overall professionalism."

Graham, ever the ruthless perfectionist decided to replace his keeper with David Seaman, who ironically had been allowed to leave Leeds when Lukic was ensconced there. "It wasn't a shock." Lukie said, "because on deadline day the previous March, he tried to gel David and palm me off on loan to QPR.

"But I declined, and the office staff at Arsenal thanked me the next day. They'd had all this lovely food which was left over from the press conference about Howard Wilkinson brought him

"home" for £1m in 1990, a year after the

in the old Second Division. "I played 25 mother of all championship finales at games before it became clear it was best Liverpool. "My claim to fame is that my for both parties that I left," he recalled. throw-out to Lee Dixon started the move for the stoppage-time goal. I was at the Kop end and wasn't sure how they'd react to me leaping about, so I decided to be constrained - then went mad after-

He left with fond memories as well as medals, not least of a

"The only video | Touching protest by Arsenal fans against the move to replace him. Yet returning to Leeds was haróly a backward step, "The place had a totally different aura. In effect, I was going to a new club, with a new chairman, new manager and new money. The old one had been swept

> Lukic was not surprised when Leeds emerged on top in his second year hack. But, the following season, "the wheels came off - no one could explain it". Many who sought to do so pinpointed Leeds' failure against Rangers in the European Cup as the key moment. Lukic, blamed for letting the Scottish champions into the tie. is philosophical about it now. I came out for a corner. The ball went

> off the top of my hand and ended up going behind me into the net. It was described as me punching into my own goal. which wasn't what happened. When I sat down and analysed that night, I came to the conclusion it was just one of those things. You can go through all the top keepers and pick out errors like that," Not that he is given to poring over performances. "I don't buy papers except the

odd broadsheet for the news, and the only video I've got is in my head. I can tell you exactly what I've done in a same - the significant things - and why I did them.

Lukic also took the rap when Leeds struggled before Christmas. But Mark Becney could not stem the flow of goals. which suggested that the problems went deeper than any individual. Wilkinson recalled him last month, since when the impression, confirmed by a stunning save from Stan Collymore on Wednesday, has been one of a player at the peak of his

Just as well, for consistency is not Lccds' strongest suit. "We've been very enigmatic in the League." Lukic conceded, "but steady in the cups. In the past, if we'd gone a goal down at Birmingham, like we did in the semi-final, that might have been it. This year we've dug in."

Form, or rather Leeds' lack of it. points to a Villa victory, although from Lukic's experience - which includes Arsenal's final upset by Luton - "there are no underdogs in a one-off match". Especially when the favourites are facing a forward, in Tony Yeboah, who might have been born to grace Wembley.

"Anywhere's a stage for Tony, but I'm sure he'll revel in the atmosphere. People talk about his spectacular shots, yet most of his goals are cold-blooded, with pace and whip on the ball. In practice games. I try to get on the same side." Leeds should be thankful Lukic is in

theirs tomorrow. His authority and maturity the does not thank me for noting that he played alongside Frank Gray. whose son Andy is in the final squad) stand out in a team short on Wembley

By coincidence, both he and Bosnich have family roots in the former Yugoslavia, and each talks knowledgeably about the conflict. Tomorrow, however, the questions will be posed by hunging boots and forcheads. Lukic is a private person to whom brash predictions are alien, but Leeds can be confident that he will be armed with the answers.



Lukic: Back at Wembley tomorrow against Aston Villa

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Newcastle face a testing time

micrship by 12 points, the straw at which their pursuers chitched was the severity of their final away fixtures. Today, a solitary goal ahead of Manchester United, albeit with two games in hand, the period when "Away the lads" could become "no way

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the lads is upon them. Twenty-five hours before Old Trafford receives Tottenham in what is traditionally one of the season's epic occasions, Kevin Keegan's side face Arsenal in what seems certain to be a tense, attritional affair. Next weekend Newcastle go to Liverpool, whose rich vein of form makes it a three way race, and they still have matches at Blackburn and Leeds to

The strain of leadership caught up with Newcastle a month back, and it was evident that they played with greater freedom against West Ham on Monday when starting in second place. Arsenal, however, will be obdurate opponents, even though Tony Adams will not be fit after all to confront Les

Howey, and Barton tope lens fitness tasks for Newcastle. If fit, manager Keegan is expected to keep an un-changed line up.

changed fire up.

Beilion V. Stroffletti Ment
Davisor is set to continue for Botton
as first shocker incelled per protegori
funcity as the providence. Solver Basic
has losses and foot; problems, so
McCarley or De Pretter could deputise.
Wednesday capture Amenton is available after a two-ments suspension.
Dutat vinger Bisiker faces a late tilcess legicar a grom strain.

Challena v. 1998

TEAM NEWS

When Newcastle led the Pre- Phil Shaw looks at the weekend's football as the Premiership struggle intensifies

> Ferdinand, who has never United for more than an hour scored at Highbury.

After his ontlay on Dennis Bergkamp and David Platt. Bruce Rioch expected Arsenal to be challenging themselves. Nevertheless, their players still have a chance of qualifying for the Uefa Cup, as well as the incentive of performing sufficiently well to survive Rioch's threatened purge or, indeed, of attracting would-be buyers.

Terry Venables will be at the game, which features six of his squad for Wednesday's visit of Bulgaria. Platt, who has missed England's last four matches, could regain the captaincy from Adams if he impresses the national coach.

Spurs take one of the division's best away records to Manchester. Yet with Colin Calderwood the latest in a long list of casualties, they look better equipped for the counter-ar-tacking part of the game plan with which Arsenal frustrated

ankle injury. Menager Knnest ney adopt a more defense furnation and possibly play from as excepts. Metter Forcest v Liverpool

Forest: are likely to remain un-changed, although Germill (after sus-pension) and Alben are aveilable for selection. Redirapp stands by for la-erpool if midfielder Thomas fails to

racover from a hamstring injury. Rud-dock is again set to deputise for Hark-ness while. Matted and Kengedy are called in because of doubts to Babb

West Ham v Man City
Cothe (call) is still out for West Ham, so Duralitiscu will partner Dovie in attack. Moncur (grain) cornes back into contention while goalleeper Majosko, (high) faces a just forest test. Brown replaces Fittent, who has juried Blackborn, in the City side.

(toe) and Jones (beck).

in midweek than for the massing-behind-the-ball aspect.

Alex Ferguson may omit Andy Cole for the first time in the 14 months since bis £7m signing, with Paul Scholes set to step in. Scholes, nine goals from 14 starts this season, came on against Arsenal for Cole, who has the same tally from 27, after the latter squandered a series of chances.

A further seven of Venables' charges are in action at Not-tingham, where Liverpool's burgeoning self-belief is likely to be strong enough to counter any hacklash factor Forest may muster in the aftermath of their humbling by Bayern Munich. The welcome for Stan Collymore, from both his former team-mates and those who revered him on the Trent End. should add spice to the occa-

At the bottom, the game will surely be up for Bolton if they do not overcome Sheffield Wednesday in the second of three consecutive home games. The first was lost, to Spurs, deflating the feel-good factor generated by a trio of away victories. Aidan Davison continues in goal knowing that Bradford City's Gavin Ward would probably have replaced him had Bolton's £250,000 offer not failed.

Manchester City, having banked £3.2m from the sale of Garry Flitcroft, appear almost as likely as Barry Fry to enter the transfer market before Thursday's deadline. Alan Ball's logic - that City are well covered for midfielders - will cut little ice with fans if their revival falters at West Ham, where the home side have won four of their last five matches.

A City victory, perhaps in tandem with a point or more for Wimhledon at Everton in a fixture redolent of relegation escapes, would intensify the pressure on both Southampton and Coventry ahead of Monday's six-pointer at The Dell.



Contradiction in terms: Professor Hans Eysenck, the men who pioneered IQ testing and a Manchester United fanatic

Top shrink owns up to United fetish

The other day at Old Trafford a most unexpected announce ment came over the public address system. Amid the usual messages - "Greetings to the Dublin branch of the United supporters' Club", or "Would Darren meet Julie after the game outside the United Megastore to help her carry the sonvenir bags home" - came the following: "Happy 80th hirthday to Professor Hans Eysenck, who

is sitting in the Stretford End." It was a toss-up who was more surprised: the rest of the crowd to learn that the country's most eminent psychologist, the man who coined the phrases "extrovert" and "introvert", the academic who pioneered intelligence testing, was sitting there in their midst; or the country's most eminent psychologist on hearing his name broadcast to the masses.

"I had no idea who organised that," he said a couple of weeks after the event, sitting in his study in south London, books like "The 1Q Controversy", "The Language of Genes" and "Madness and Modernism" jostling for space on his shelves

ball Year Book. "I was so surprised suddenhearing my name over the transmitters. It was very strange, particularly as now everyone

Jim White meets Professor Hans Eysenck, an Old Trafford regular who has a good mind to solve Cole's scoring problems and give Gazza an IQ test

and brought up in Berlin. He is reputation in England. In Gerthus a dved-in-the-wool Manchester United supporter.

I used to play football as a child and started to watch games at about eight years old," he said. "and even then we knew of Manchester United. I have been recently in Egypt and Taiwan. The moment they hear I am from England they say the name Man-chester United without even knowing I support them. When I retired 12 years ago I could go more frequently and I became a season ticket holder and try to go to every game, British Rail permitting. It is a good time: this United team is almost the best

I have ever seen." Professor Eysenek has spent a good portion of his career comhining his hobby with his academic work. He has written papers on the benefits of psychological which end he and his colleagues conducted considerable research

in dressing rooms.
"We didn't get much encouragement from players. They said: We are not screw, we don't

ceptive. Though, even over there, you always got problems with managers, they saw you as trying to usurp part of their function. He is particularly fascinated by the psychology of form, the

many they were much more re-

Cantona is fascinating. It is hard to change your personality like that, and all honour to him'

way in which confidence ebbs and flows (and thus he has dertake field work from his seat at Old Trafford on the subject of Andy Cole).

"A great deal of the game is Tissier. Last year he was out-

standing, this year he has lost heart. Loss of form must be a psychological phenomenon, because physically he is exactly the same. Cole obviously has ability, but he worries about something. That is casy to see. But helping solve

those problems, that is different." Perhaps he should volunteer his services. "No, no. Most academic pyschologists and psychiatrists are very poor on practical psychology. People always gct quite the wrong idea. At parties I meet a girl and she says: You must be able to read my mind." If only I could, I think Alex Ferguson is a very astute natural psychologist. To be so successful he must be. I'll leave it to him."

In any case, there is, Professor Eysenck reckons, a role model for Cole closer to home, a patient who apparently cured himself in a manner so sucthe entire psychiatric profession redundant.

"Cantona," said the Professor, eyes twinkling at the very played in the mind, obviously." mention of the name, "He is ab-he explained. "Look at Lc solutely fascinating. As a player he is the tops. And now he

has calmed down, he's perfect I am very surprised he managed it. It is a very hard thing to change your personality like that and all honour to him. I wish Gazza would imitate him."

Ah. Gazza. Since the Professor is most famed for his work on IQ this son, with whom he attends all United matches is a computer expert, and at present the pair are engaged in developing a program for intelligence testing), what does he think Gazza's rating is?

"I don't think Gazza is dumb," he said. "He has emo-tional problems, which is a different kettle of fish. In any case. sadly, a high IQ does not protect you from doing stupid things. Actually 1 don't think many top footballers are dumb, they lack education. I once talked to a chap who used to play for Everton - I forget his name now who was doing a PhD in psychology after he retired. And you only have to hear old players talk about the game to realise they have a very intelligent grasp of what is going on. Actually I'd love to be able to test footballers for nating paper. But now I am re-tired I don't have the students to do the leg work for me, so I don't have the time." Particularly since so much of his life these, days is taken up by visits to his

Chelises v QPR Chelises manager Hodgle's Body in name an unchanged sace with Bornaries Brown replaces Fiscoli, who has name an unchanged sace with Bornaries Direction, in the Chy side, ley continuing to lift's pot the induced Blackborn, in the Chy side, ley continuing to lift's pot the induced Blackborn, in the Chy side, ley continuing to lift's pot the chy side. Within sinier Cole is, so has been predicted, rested, Scholes is in lice continued in managers, but the continuing his again likely to be massing any Bouse is expected to be continued by the continuing his second metallic being any Bouse is expected to be continued by the continuing his second metallic being any bouse is expected to the continuing his second metallic being any bouse is expected to be continued by the continuing his second metallic being any bouse is expected to be continued by the continuing his second metallic being any bouse is expected to the continuing his second metallic being any bound of the second fines and some his second metallic being any bound of the second metallic being a second metallic being any bound of the second metallic being any bound of the second metallic being a Rangers have their eye on Wright

Scottish football

chase for Ian Wright, Arsenal's transfer-seeking striker. Walter Smith, the Rangers manager, and Davie Dodds, his coach, watched the 32-yearold forward in Wednesday's

Stoke City fans like nothing bet-ter than to see their neighbours,

Port Vale; soundly beaten. De-

feated 2-0 by Leeds at home in

the fifth round of the FA Cup

and last Sunday thrashed 5-2 by Genoa in the "Mickey Mouse"

Anglo-Italian Cup final at . Membley that's Vale's season

over. Now they can concentrate

overshadowed by their less il-

listrious neighbours. Time was

when Vale were in the old

Pointh Division and we were in the First Division. So for Vale players like Ian Bogie and

on relegation.

Premiership match at Man-

would appeal to Wright, while Smith is still in the hunt for a goalscorer, despite his recent huys of Peter van Vossen and Erik Bo Andersen.

Rangers have not yet made

come to terms with. Didn't we

once have Dennis Viollet, Jim-

my McIlroy, Roy Vernon, Alan

Hudson, Gordon Banks and Pe-

ter Shilton playing for us?

But if Vale's season is over,

vision, we have a chance of

making the play-offs though,

with Charlton, Derby and Sun-derland still to play away from home, it won't be easy.

financially embarrassed. The payments already made will

ian managed only one triple-

combination to two hy the

American and had to settle for

silver. Britain's Steven Cousins

slipped to 15th place after a dis-

In the ice dancing, the Rus-

sians Oksana Grishuk and

Evgeny Platov were poised to

take their third title after win-

ning the original dance section.

Britain's Marika Humphreys

and Philip Askew were in 16th

appointing performance.

One thing that worries me,

terest is known at Arsenal. The chance to play in the Chelsea are their main rivals, made a couple of offers only to be rejected. Assenal may be happier selling Wright to Scotland rather than having their crowd favourite playing down

the road at Stamford Bridge. knows it was the 80th birthday." Professor Evsenck was born need you'. Shrinks have a bad

FAN'S EYE VIEW

I like the feeling of being in the enemy camp

Stoke City

Rush or Chris Waddle be pre- ber of points ever recorded. We pared to end their careers play-

what his long-serving prede-cessor once called "thoroughing where Stanley Matthews tion again. began and finished his? It is here breds" - players long in the tooth who could still turn it on All this begs the question: a bit. Where would Macari find Do we want to be in the Prea Peter Dobing, Geoff Hurst or mier League? The last time George Eastham at a knock- Stoke were in the old First Didown price today? Would the vision was in 1985 and we were likes of Peter Beardsley, Ian relegated with the lowest num-

C. Not Languar Guarman Instrument Committee (Committee Committee C

Laura Davies, the defending champion, finished the first round of the LPGA Stan-

dard Register Ping in Phoenix with 71, three shots behind the leader Barb

Mucha. Daves is trying to become the first player on the tour to win the same event in three consecutive years since Ratiny Wintworth captured the Orange Blossom Classic from 1968 to 1970.

HOYEL KSB OPEN (Tokyo) Leading second-round occurs (Lispon unless stated): 137 B Wats (US) 69 69; Everson (Coll 67 70; Sur A 66 71; M Kimura 65 71; S Gray (Aust 65 72, 138 S Yokota 67 71, 139 P MCV/himey

NRS: Boston 3 Ortano 1: Florida 3 NY Islanders 2: Protourgh 5 Edmorton 4: Tampa Bay 3 Washington 3.

ice hockey

. ::

could do without that humilia-It is here that I must confess that I am an exiled Stoke fan living in West Yorkshire, who hasn't seen a match at the Victoria Ground since April 1973.

(The match was against Man-chester United - Best, Charl-

like John Motson who enjoy a footballing irony United had recently signed what the pro-gramme described as "the spectacular Scottish striker" Lou Macari).

My reasons for wishing that Stoke should remain in the First Division are purely selfish. it would mean that I could continue to watch Stoke playing at Oakwell, the new McAlpine Stadium in Hudderstield, Bramall Lane, Blundell Park and, if Leeds United got relegated next season, Elland Road.

playing away, though I'm not always hrave enough to go with the away fans and I'm wary of heing too demonstrative when the home team concede a goal.

I must also confess to enjoying what might be described as the kudos of supporting an unfashionable club - though I have discovered that it is not possible to share this indulgence with members of my family.

Above all, my reasons for wishing that Stoke remain in the First Division are practical and hope largely unselfish. The Premier League is a different phy in 1992.

Jover (US) at M Hadad (Col) 4-6-7-6-6-4; M Chidness (SA) at N Laperto (Ecuador) 6-2-4-6-6-2; R Remebers (US) b) A Padulescu (Gen 7-6-6-4; M Chidness (US) b) A Padulescu (Gen 7-6-6-4; M Chidness (Sa) 6-1-0; P C A Grossman (US) at P Stander (US) 6-1-0; P C A Grossman (US) at R Stander (US) 6-1-6-1; M McGrath (US) b) at M Padulesch (US) 6-1-6-1; M Stander (US) 10 M Chidness (US)

place to the old First Division of 10 years ago and Stoke simply haven't the resources to survive there for very long though. ironically, they probably have the support.

If we do make the play-offs and get to Wembley, I would. of course, want Stoke to win and I'd expect them to take their chances in the Premier League Though I'd hate to see them end up like Oldham, Leicester,

lpswich or Bolton. And woe betide us if we do get to Wemhley and lose, because there's nothing Port Vale fans like better than to see their neighbours soundly heaten. But we could console ourselves... we did win the Autoglass Tro-

Wrangle thwarts Woodhall

Eldredge one jump ahead

To be truthful, nothing irks ours is still very much alive.

Stoke fans more than to be Currently fifth in the First Di-

Steve Guppy and their manag-eg. John Rudge, to become motion to the Premier League, mousehold names as a result of will Lou Macari, the manager,

Richie Woodhall was tonight left without a fight when his European middleweight championship hout was aborted in Hamburg. The German pro-moters could not come up with the balance of Woodhall's of his energy against the 31-£181,000 purse - two-thirds of year-old Chilean-born chal-£181,000 purse - two-thirds of which had been paid - and Mickey Duff, his manager, felt. he had no alternative but to pull out of the defence against Salvactor Yanez.

Duff gave a opm deadline to the fight's financial backer, Katle Schwensen, to come up with the outstanding cash. but he could not find the money. Woodhall, though, will not be nore.

Tord Eldredge, of the United

States, turned in the jumping

performance of his life to over-

iake Russia's Hya Kulik and win

gold in the men's competition

at the World Figure Skating

Championships in Edmonton,

Canada yesterday. Both Eldredge and Kulik,

who was leading after Wednes-

day's short programme, made

eight triple axels, but the Russ-

ice skating

Busketball

NBA: New Jersey 97 Derver 89; Chucogo 1.07 New York 86; Houston 85 Caveland 96; Phosre 104 Golden State 96; Seattle 1.04 LA Lakers

pack his suitcase and head for South America in search of a

Juninho. Asprilla or Branco or

two? With pockets stuffed with oatcakes rather than cash, he

Or will he, like the former

manager, Tony Waddington,

trawl the Premier League for

hasn't much of a chance.

Bowls

Bowls

WORLD CRAMPIONSHIPS (Adelaide): Paint
Section As Argentina bi, Missaw 31-16; Namora
tr Israel 20-18; South Africa it Horion, Island
21-19; Souther bi Western Seman 37-9; Angertina
ti Western Seman 24-12; Israel bi South Africa
18-16; Souther bi Melance 29-18; Namine at Novtini Israel 18-15; Section its United States
18-16; Souther bi Melance 29-16; Namine at Novtini Israel 32-16; Melapsia Grew with Kerpe
20-20 Irahand tr New Zesterd 20-19; Hong Yong
to United States 35-12; New Zesterd to Heatpee
31-7; Hampo to Instand 24-20; Section Cr Weles
13-7; Hampo to Irahand 23-13; Carreda bi Zentement 2-9; Zentabus to Hersey-2-15; Parcal
New Guinea bi Theriend 23-13; Carreda bi Zentement 2-9; Zentabus to Hersey-2-16; Parcal
New Guinea bi Theriend 23-13; Carreda bi Zentement 2-4-16; Guernsy in Section 18-14;
Australa bi Zentha 30-16; Bottom 18-14;
Australa bi Zentha 30-16; Bottom 11: Engand
in Fig 25-16; Tripher: Serol-Breis: South Aris
18-17. mean that he will go back to Telford with the equivalent of £125,000 after paying taxes. But keen competitor though he is, the Telford fighter would have preferred to expend some lenger, "I'm not angry. There's no point in ranting and raving because you do no good. But obviously. I'm disappointed," Woodhall said.

Sorth Africa 23-11; New Zeeland in Australe 18-17.
WOMEN'S INDOOR HOME ENTERNATIONAL CHAMMONSHIPS (Leader) England in Soot-land 113-110 England stype (Res): 1 Rhylands lost to J Sykes 23-15; W Line in E Wese 17-14; M Price in E McCanne 18-13; N Shen bi J Lan-done 24-19, M Speels of Francon 19-15; O Hen-ian lost by J Conten 16-15. The initial offer from Schwensen, under the promotional banner of Detleft Loritz, was a record for a European title fight and was too good to ig-

Boxing

PROFESSIONAL PROMOTION (Elephant and Castle Lelaure Centre, London): 8-rd feeth-

Football

traty's Serie A matches which ivere post-poned last weekend because of a play-ers' strike have been rescheduled for

The Cardiff City manager, Phil Neel, has signed a 23-year-old lesmantan Glenn Johnson, a striker with Black Town City of the Australian League. of the Australan Legister.

TRANSFERS: Links Bisown florward Hull to Swansaa; Chris Lightfoot (midleider) Wigen to Crew; Jim Michalyne Chrisol Airthe to ridmemori, Lee Philipott (midfeider) Lecester to Bisolyce; Ian Richardson (midreider) Emmigram to Notic County, Meek Ward Inscheder) Symmigram to Notic County, Meek Ward Inschedery Symmigram to Huddersteld.

SPORTING DIGEST

LOAN TRANSFERS: Gracene Tomileson (weiger Manchester Utst to Lufort, Store Core (mediecer) Aston Vide to Sarkort, Greg Berry (mediecer) Mihreal to Leyson Orient, Asthony Brien (self-rate) West Bromach to Chesser, Paul Cores (mediechet) Leeks, to Octob Desire, Artic. WORLD PIGLIFE SKATING CHAMPIONDEPS (Ex-montion, Carl) First man's results: 1.7 Edmapt 1651 (2.0mz; 2.1 kmar (Rs.) 2.5; 3 R Garro 1.85) 6.0; 15.5 Course (68-70.5 Landing les dan-ing positions effer original dance 1.6 of sinu-and E Partor Riss) LO, 2.4 kg, oza anc 0.0 ks.mi-mior (Rs.) 2.0; 3.5 H Bourte and V kradz (Dan-nior (Rs.) 2.0; 3.5 H Bourte and V kradz (Dan-3.0; 1.8 M Humpfreys and P Aslew 199; 1.5-6 imidieuteri Mibiesii to Leyton Onent, Anthony Islan italerinah West Entreuch to Chester, Pusi Brane (mathetider) Leets to Crystal Patiest, Adrian Fester forwardi Gillergham to Detter, Brian Motiomy imidieuteri Wycombe to Central BULGARIA SQUAD (Priendly v England, Westbery, Bransley, Harriston, Romandiev (Compatious, harrier (Perus Asofut, Kremandiev (Compatious, harrier (Perus Asofut, Kremandiev (Compatious, harrier (Perus Asofut, Kremandiev (Ampatious, Earster), Christon, Martiner, Gentral Sport, Bransley, Martinev (Perus Martine), Bransley (Neutral Bourgas), Parsion (Laching, Basiston Will Studger), Perus (Peter Martin), Bransley (Laching, Basiston Will Studger), Perus (Peter Martin), Bransley (Laching, Basiston Wills), Perus (Peter Martin), Bransley (Laching, Basiston Wills), Perus (Peter Martin), Bransley (Laching, Basiston Wills), Perus (Peter Martin), Bransley (Peter Martin), Perus (Peter Martin), Peter (Peter Charley), Peter (Peter Ch

Rugby Union

SUPER-12 TOURNAMENT (Christohusch): Can-teroury INC: 15 Western Provi sa 154° 16. RELIAND SQUAD (Hong Keng Shrems, 29-31)
Marehi; D McBride (Marrie, nort, P Johns (Dongston, D Corless) (Cort Contact on, J Garth Warderent, N Hagen (Feeture Colege, E Brood (Israchura), V Commitgiant (St Marry Colege), N Hongs (Feb. Colege), N Hagen (Satyman), J Corping (Satyman), J William (St Marry Colege), N Woods (Barthon, Colege), R William (Satyman), J Topping (Satyman),

Skiling BRITISH CHAMPHONSHIPS (Tignes, Fr) Men's parvisel statore: 1 G 985; 2 A 2012; 3 A Frest-sezer, Westen's parallel statore: 1 M Acorn; 2 I Prie; 3 K Mons.

Sumo

SUMO
SPERG GRAND TOURNAMENT (Octob) 12th day of 15: Towtsunda won 7, 5st 6i bt Kassgab; 6: 7); Kaskechdolo 8: 5i bt Konspans 8: 5); Asmosto (7-6) bt Konspans (8-5); Asmosto (7-6) bt Konspans (7-6) bt Konspans (7-6) bt Konspans (7-6) bt Manachi; (7-6); Lochnowita (8-8); It Kirshman (8-10); Pamscoshma (7-6) bt Manachi; (8-6) bt Walashojo (5-8); Konspan (6-7) bt Modern (4-8); Kashyusha (7-6) bt Tamaha; (8-7) bt Aograma (3-10); Kerlo 4-9); bt Qondans (2-11); Kotmosla (10-2); bt Monachina (8-7); bt Aograma (3-10); Kerlo 4-9); bt Qondans (2-11); Kotmosla (10-2); bt Monachina (8-7); Valashola (10-3); bt Mosachina (11-2); bt Manachina (11-6); bt Florocom (12-2); bt Manachina (4-8); bt Florocom (12-2); bt Manachina (11-2); bt Florocom (11-2);

Swimming BRTISH OLYMPIC TRIALS (Sheffield): Here Som freestyle: 1 M Foster (Car of Cardi) 22.745c; 2 A Papley (On of Sheffield) 23.18: 3 M Roberts (Harriso) 23.29. 300m medley: 1.0 Victors (City of Leeds): 2mm/5.33sec; 2 F Water Manngun Warnorsi 205, 71:3 P Lat-tory (Cay of Less) 206, 15, 1500a hossespic 16 Smith (Stodgont Mem) 15:03, 43 throsts record; 2 P Palmer (City of Lesson) 15:18.60: I like the feeling of being in

LETON CHAMPIONSHIPS (Key Blacenet Flat Blen's singles first round: W Koucitok (Poli of A Krit-stan - US) 6-3 3-6 7-5; P Roma (fiz Rep) to Dien feen 6-4 6-3; S Peccasion of the IT Maken (Barl 6-1 6-2); S Depoi (Aus) bt C William-con (Barl 6-3 6-4; S Standam Neeth III M Knoeles -Born 6-3 7-6; J Stotlenberg (Aus) of G Etis, John 6-1 6-1; R Musers (Stocki) at F Claver (Sp. 7-5 2-5 6-4; J Pess (Inn) at P Bour (Ser 6-3 6-4; G Roma (Pr) at J Krustan, (Stocki) 7-5 6-7 6-2; M

UNITED STATES & CANADA

Snow reports

AUSTRIA					
Obergurgi good Bedgestein	pkd powder pkd powder pkd powder	90%	22.3 22.3 23.3	light snow	
FRANCE					
La Стивахразсту	fresh fresh	75% 95%	22.3 22.3	cloud/sno snow	ou Sum
Les Gets patchy	rest	98%	22.3	STOR	MIN
FALY					
Carvinia	powdery compact moded	100% 100% 100%	22.3 22.3 11.3	snow fine sunny	chan
HORWAY					
Celto	8000	60%	20.3	SUNTY.	
Genshee	200d	100%	21.3	tar	
Glencoe good SPAIN	good	100%	21.3	1-2-1	
Formigalpacked	pkd powder	100%	163	SURTY	
SKTIZERLAND					
Champery	freen	90%	223	200m	eng

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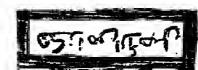
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C Singer (Gri to N French 195) 6-2-6-2, £ De Lone 195; in 17 Ruence-Rappus 150: 7-5-3-6-76. A Five first to N Joseph 1969 6-3-6-1. B Schnot (Auf) 5-6-6-7-1 (Garana 1969) 6-3-6-7-5-6-7-1 (Linearo-Rappus 196) 7-6-6-1. Linearo-Rappus 1960 7-6-6-6-1. Linearo-Rappus 1960 7-6-6-6-1. Linearo-Rappus 1960 7-6-6-6-1. Linearo-Rappus 1960 7-6-6-6-1. Linearo-Rappus 1960 7-6-6-1. Linearo-Rappus 1960 7-6-6-6-1. Linearo-Rappus 1960 7-6-6-6-1. Linearo-Rappus 1960 7-6-6-6-1. Linearo-Rappus 196

In Monday's 24-page sports section

EVERGISERIO



COCA-COLA CUP FINAL

Brian Little: From cavalier to roundhead Page 30.

Illingworth to stay after rival withdraws

JON CULLEY

After the débacle of the World Cup, English cricket is suffering more emharrassment today after David Graveney's bid to oust Ray Illingworth as chairman of selectors ended in farce.

The 43-year-old players union leader withdrew his opposition to Illingworth little more than 24 hours after his nomination by Warwickshire and Surrey was confirmed by the Test and County Cricket Board. Ballot papers had been issued

to the 18 first-class counties who, along with the MCC and Minor Counties, were to have delivered their verdict - effectively a vote of confidence in the current England regime - by Tuesday morning. That vote will now not be necessary, leaving Illingworth to continue unopposed as chairman for the forthcoming home series against India and Pakistan.

Behind Graveney's withdrawal is the insistence of the Professional Cricketers' Association, for whom he is full-time general secretary, that he could not combine both roles, partially from a practical point of view but also aking into account possible conflicts of interest. It was on their instructions that he stood aside.

Graveney, on holiday in

isting paid post, aware that leave him out of a job.

The terseness of Graveney reaction last night betrayed his disappointment at having to make the choice. "As a paid employee of the Professional Cricketers' Association, I accept the instruction of the presi-

dent and the chairman." he said.
"I would like to take this opportunity of thanking Warwickshire and Surrey for nominating me and any other counties who might have supported me. I apologise for any distress this decision may have caused. It has always heen my wish to serve the game to the best of my ability and I shall continue to do this in the future."

The Cricketers' Association

supported Graveney's election as an England selector a year ago but clearly felt the chairmanship to be a position he could not combine with his union duties, Tim Curtis, the chairman supported by the president Jack Bannister, confirmed they had instructed Graveney to stand down, explaining that the association had given "further consideration to his nomination as chairman and decided that there would be unacceptable dif-

ficulties for the association". In particular, they foresaw problems over his representation of players in disciplinary matters

English cricket's battered for-tunes and the security of his ex-bas only recently, for example, been advising Devon Malcolm over the TCCB disciplinary action set in motion in response to the Derbyshire bowler's comments about Illingworth made after the South Africa tour.

The hierarchy at Lord's, who confirmed last night that Illingworth would stay on as chairman responsible but this episode reflects little credit on the parties involved. It is an embarrassment to Graveney and his supporters, and to the Cricketers' Association, who knew nothing of the nomination until it was made public on Wednesday, by which time Graveney had outlined some plans he proposed to

put forward, if successfu "I spoke to David about the matter for the first time only today," Curtis said last night. "Had we been able to talk earlier the Association would not have had to issue the kind of statements we have made today."

· There are deeper ramifications for the England management structure and for Illingworth. Straw polls indicated that the first-10-8 in favour of the Yorkshireman. Graveney having struck a chord with his plans for greater delegation of responsibilities and an emphasis on including current and recent players in the coaching set-up, Ian Botham and Mike



Cup final haunted by threat from Uefa

GLENN MOORE

Tomorrow's Coca-Cola Cup winners could have the prize of a Uefa Cup place taken away from them before the end of the season. The action would hasten the end of the competition in its curreal format.

The threal comes from Ucfa, which is expected to remove the Football Association's right to offer a Uefa Cup place to the League Cup winners at its executive meeting on 16 April. Without such an incentive, many leading clubs can be expected follow Manchester United's example and enter weakened teams. Restructuring of the competition would almost certainly follow. One FA official even went so far yesterday as to say privately: We assume it will he the end of the competition".

Although Chris Hull, of the Foothall League, said: They cannot do that, it is an agreement hetween the FA and the League", the FA's Steve Double admitted: "It may be written on a tablet of stone, but Uefa could place is a gift from them.

The principles of natural juswill qualify, but even if it does the prospect of the competition losing a Ucfa Cup place after next season would inevitably lessen its prestige, and the League would find it hard to match Coca-Cola's current sponsorship deal,

which expires at the end of next season. The FA has written to Uefa defending the status quo hut an FA official admitted: "We are not terribly confident." The threat follows a misguid-

ed attempt by Uefa to reduce the size of the Premiership. It threat-ened to prevent countries with more than 18 teams in the top division (like England) allocating European places to league cup winners. Rather than cutting their division, however, Premier clubs reacted by welcoming the news, on the basis that it meant an extra place for a high Prem-

iership finish. Premiership clubs are committed to entering the League Cup, which would prevent a return to the absentecism of its early days. With gate receipts,

cast it into the deep blue sea. The television income and prize mon ey, the winners of tomorrow's final between Aston Villa and tice suggest this year's winners Leeds will gross £2m from the competition - much more than the FA Cup winners. Yet even that, in proportion to Sky's millions, is less significant. So, these days, is the Wemhley date.

Europe remains the real prize as Brian Little, Aston Villa's manager, underlined in midweek. When asked if the competition had grown in prestige he replied: "Definitely. A route into Europe means an awful lot to clubs like ourselves."

This year, with the Premiership losing a European place because of the insipid approach to the Intertoto Cup, it means even more. As things stand there will be only five English entrants into the three European competitions next season.

Hull said the League had theen assured the Uefa Cup place is safe for this season and next. We are confident it will be for years to come. Lennart Johannson [Uefa's president] recently suggested he did not care how many league games clubs played.



THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD

No. 2942. Saturday 23 March 11 It's seen in painting, espe-

Friday's solution

Last Saturday's solution

ACROSS Don't show doctor greeting one mistress while embracing another one (4.1.4.4)

3 A sudden flash, topped by the lightning in this? (9)

Spider-infested tree has ing another one (4.1.4.4) 10 Shock tool used by lock-

12 Extremes of the filthy dump get you readily an-noyed (5)

smith? (9)

Giving encouragement over that? I must be crazy! (9) 14 Ring and cross on Scot. a University fellow? (7)

prickly plant? (7)
18 Large simple plant incorporates one process of fluid absorption (7)

20 Farewell for ambassador atending Queen Elizabeth I in company (7)

the doghouse! (9) 23 Vulgar slut framing name in vulgar language (5) 34 Should dram be omitted from shortage of drinking

material? (5) 25 Train colt to dance - we sing (9) 26 Luxury service to begin: dine with beaux in right

surroundings (4.9)

DOWN

very black interior, on re-

Mystical poet, one with ex-

ssion of disgust, in the forefront (7) forefront (7)
Be a recipient of fashion-able girl's sex-appeal (7)
Exclude Ordnance Survey line encircling island (9)

Little space given to University in Ulster due to lack of interest (5) Fancy that being a ques-tion of expertise! (4,2,3,4) Football tans cry foreshadows a win – things never change (4,2,2,5) 15 Who'll organise inert

cops? (9) 17 Ultrapain, wrongly prescribed, can be rough stuff

(9) 19 I join currer going mund edge of Pacific (7) 20 Former emperor almost capturing protectorate in noted display of

prowess(7) 22 Most of the liquor turns up after dark (5) 23 Content's missing from some spirit - it's just wa-

tery liquid (5) The first five correct solutions to this week's puzzle opened next Thursday receive hardbacked copies of the excellent Chambers Biographical Dictionary, worth £35. Answers and winners' names will be published next Samrday. Send solutions to Saturday Crossword. P. O. Rox 4018, The independent, I Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London £1458L. Please use the box number and postcode and give your own postcode. Last week's winners: Laura Bryant. Sheffield, M Lucas, Glasgow; S. Smith, London £14; Marjorie Lake, London SW8; JK Browning, Edinburgh.

to catch peers

From Blackhurn to England is how Garry Flitcroft mapped out his future yesterday, when he completed a £3.5m move from

Manchester City. The 23-year-old midfielder, who signed a four-year contract with Rovers after being on the staff at Maine Road since he was 12, said: "I have watched some of the players I played with in the Under-21s go on to the full squad and perhaps I have sat back a bit. This is my

chance to catch up."
Ray Harford described his latest signing as "a complete midfield player" hut not necessarily a straight replacement for David Batty, who was sold to Newcastle United for £3.75 at the beginning of the month.

With less than a week to go to the deadline, Leicester were busy clearing the decks for new arrivals. Jimmy Willis, a defender, is to join Burnley for £125,000; the winger Lce Philpott agreed a £100,000 move to Blackpool; and the striker David Lowe may re-join Wigan for £125,000.

Birmingham were rebuffed by Martin O'Connor yesterday after agreeing to pay Walsall £500,000 for the midfielder. Barry Fry did, however, offload three players, with mid-fielder Ian Richardson joining Notes County for £150,000, the former Everton midfielder Mark Ward going to Huddersfield on a free transfer, and Manchester City making Scott Hiley's loan move permanent for £200,000. Jan Molby contimued his rebuilding at Swansea by paying Hull £60,000 for Lin-

Norwich City have dismissed as speculation rumours that the Italian outfit, Genoa, are about to buy out chairman Robert Chase's stake in the Carrow Road chib

ton Brown, a striker.

EUROPEAN CLIP Somi-finals: Ajax v Par naikos; Juventus v Narties (First leg 3 April. second leg 17 April. Final in Rome on 22 May)

UEFA CUP Send-final draws Signic Progue v Bordesuc, Bayern Munich v Barcelona. (Fit leg 2 April, second leg 16 April. Winner of se ond semi plays at home in first leg of two

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First in a four

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As many people in Britain roday know, Arthritis can cause severe crippling joint damage to hands and wrists, making simple tasks seem a daily battle. Feet, knees, hips, shoulders, lbows, jaw and neck can also be affected, causing unrelenting pain and disability. -

The Arthritis and Rheumatism Council is the only major UK charity financing medical research into all aspects of osteoarthritis and rheumatic diseases at most university hospitals and medical schools in the UK.

In 1996 we celebrate our Diamond Jubilee and there is real hope that these destructive diseases can now be beaten. With your help we can continue the battle to find a cure.

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THIS WEEKEND WHY NOT

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ATTEND An opera masterclass

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ENDURANCE

Brigitte Fassbaender is one of the wisest of singers with a string of unparalleled. interpretations of opera and lieder living on in memory and on disk. Book right away to watch her masterclasses with singers in London's most intimate and inspirational musical setting. ■ Wigmore Hall, London W1 (0171-935 2141) Sat 3pm, Sun 4pm £9, £7

GO Snowboarding

The worst of the winter may gone, but there's still plenty of the white stuff in Meribel in the French Alps, home of the week-long 1996 Playstation British Snowboard Championships beginning today. Drop everything and sample this cross between surfing skateboarding, and skling, the fastest-growing winter sport ever. Crystal Holidays (0181-240

WATCH **Quiz Show**

Schindler's List made the teeth-gnashingly photogenic Ralph Fiennes a Hollywood star. Mysteriously, many managed to miss his excellent performance in Robert Redford's criminally underrated Quiz Show. Now you can buy video proof that Hollywood doesn't have to be brainless or witless: ■ Touchstone, £12.99

TAKE The Plunge

Masks, fins, snorkels, boats and everything you wanted to know about sub-aqua diving is on display at the London International Dive Show. There's a try-out dive pool for the uninitiated and the chance to win a balmy learnto-dive holiday for two in the Bahamas. ■ National Hall, Olympia, London (0171-370 8485)

REVISIT Music Hall

Elizabeth Mansfield is finally in the West End where she belongs. Her vivid incarnation of Marie Lloyd is a real star turn, drawing audiences into the feisty, frolicking world of the Queen of the Edwardian Music Hall. Infinitely preferable to a Sunday afternoon slopping around on the sofa.

酯 Fortune Theatre, London WC2 (0171-836 2238) Sun 3.30pm

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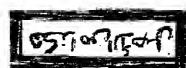
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PICTURE STORY THE MODERN GIRL .4-6 PROPERTY 15 MONEY.



picture story



The boulevard of Jadi-Mai-Wan was once Kabul's busiest commercial district. Years of shelling and gun battles between the rival mujahedin have disamboweled it. The area is heavily mined and full of unexploded shells, yet the Afghan children are so desperate for firewood that they



Having mastered a few steps on his new leg, after months of being hospital-ridden, this boy and a therapist share laughter at his success. In Kabul, relief workers have discovered that often the handicapped are the best teachers for each other



As the sun set over the devastated landscape of Kabul, this old man climbed to the rooftop of a bombed-out building to watch a child flying his homing pigeons above the ruins. Even in winter, the old man wears only sandals. "I have only enough money for food," he says. "If I buy socks what will I say to my children when their bowl is empty?"

HIGH COST, NO RETURN

Over the past 14 years of war, Afghan combatants have blasted away hundreds of millions of pounds in ammunition — and have killed over 25,000 civilians — trying to conquer Kabul. To an outsider, the prize may not seem worth it. Much of Kabul has been hammered into rubble. Winters bring famine, disease and more destruction. When an Islamic militia movement known as the Taleban appeared at Kabul's gates a year ago, many Afghans greeted them as liberators, come to free them from the anarchy and death brought on by the warring guerrilla factions. Today, the Taleban have proved themselves no better than any other mujahedin faction. They, too, have become part of the chaos. In trying to overthrow the unpopular Kabul regime, they have rocketed and bombed the poor families and refugees who are cowering in the city's muddy ruins. Kabul's plight lies forgotten by all save the Afghans themselves and a few brave relief agencies.

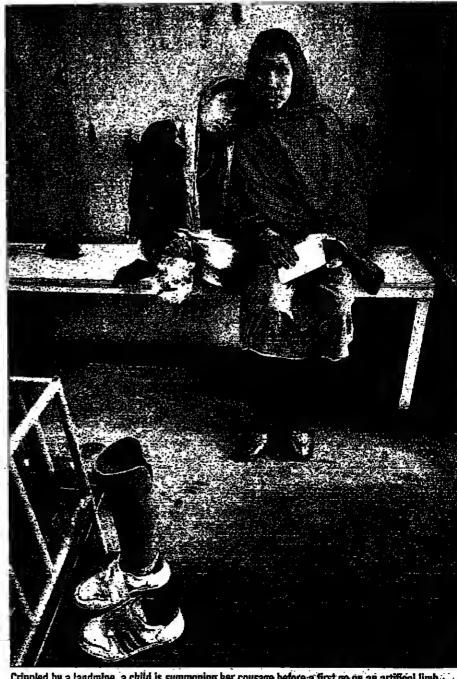
Tom Pilston, who was yesterday named Nikon Feature Photographer of 1995, spent two weeks in Afghanistan capturing the story on film. Words by Tim McGirk



A teenage gunman faces the Taleban enemy, crouched in a ruined tarmhouse just 200 yards away. The youth's best friend was killed the day before by a rocket. He's tired of war but knows that if he returns to his village, the commander there will send him back to the front



Ghulam Sadiq, 12, stepped on a mine while out scavaging for firewood. Gholam, whose foot was blown of was carried into hospital by his-saviour, a young militiamen, who gave 700ml of his own blood



Crippled by a landmine, a child is summoning her courage before a first go on an artifical limb.

The Red Cross, which built the limb for the child, claims that fighting has left over 2 million physically disabled

of the making of the Paughters of the revolution

The Nineties miss has never had it so good. Or has she? In the first of a four-part series, Rosalind Miles discusses the pleasures and pressures of life for girls today



inism, the answer to Freud's "great question", proof that women can have love and Have we got the technology for you! work. She is the modern miss, and she's never had it so good. Or has she? History loves to flirt with

hour is done. From the forging of the US frontier by Annie Oakley to the British Land Army of the Second World War. there is a "now-you-see-it, now-you-don't" quality to the New Girlhood that should give us pause. Much of the hullabaloo looks like sheer advertising hype. How much of what we see in the modern maid at play can be real, and how much is just another image-maker's device to foster the illusion of progress we have not had?

Some things have changed, for sure. This is the first generation of women in history not to make getting a man, marriage and a family their sole or primary goal. Figures from the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys show that the priests. No wonder girls are walking tall. number of marriages has now slumped to its lowest for more than 50 years. The age at which women marry for the first time has risen steadily to almost 27, giving young women a decade of freedom from domesticity which most will put to the kind of personal or career development

unthinkable in their mothers' day. Today's young women also feel free to pick apart the traditional man/marriage/motherhood package, taking only the bits they want and happily discarding the rest. You want a man, but not marriage, dear? You live together, that's all.

gs, even knickers showing, hair Marriage, but not children? The 1995 sur- by parents, girls also walk and cycle far less when the men are making such a poor larity of today's young women holds and clothes flowing, she strides vey Hopes and Realities by Guttermacher than boys, with the result that some 13- showing of the freedoms they have. So, far another fear, too. Their growing-up has boldly out of the adverts down Research Institute showed that child-year-olds have only the physical maturity from being the stronger sex, now they have seen a virtual holocaust of marriage, the every street in the land, hounces—firth is talking world-wide, while figures—of girls of 9, in the least hi female off the pages of every woman's from Britain indicate that around a fifth magazine and lords it over the of today's under-21-year-old women will date-night chat show set. By choose never to have children. You'd like Calvin Klein out of Lady Chat- a child hut not a man, madam? We offer terley, she is the triumph of Seventies fem-you the single parent option. You'd rather ter than boys at A-level are still only half not mess with a male to get pregnant?

Now that getting a man is no longer the main purpose of life from the age of 12 onwards, girls are free to concentrate on the idea of female freedom, only to shove their schoolwork in an apparently bloodwomen back in the closet as soon as their . less revolution that has reversed another entire belief-system of the past. The faith in men's higher intelligence, used for centuries as the raison d'etre of male dominance, has taken a terminal blow with this month's confirmation from the Chief Inspector of Schools and Head of the Office for Standards in Education that "girls outperform boys at 7, 11 and 14". Girls are more successful than boys at every level in the GCSE, and are now achieving success in traditionally "male" subjects like design technology, computer studies and maths. We have female astronauts and amhassadors, female weight-lifters as well as weight-watchers, women sewage-workers, CEOs and

> And yet. All revolutions, all calls for freedom, all movements for equality have always stopped short of sexual equality. The undoubted progress that women have made has always been in the form of "two steps forward, one step back". The girls who are succeeding academically now are also becoming 5 per cent less fit than boys, warns Professor Neil Armstrong of Exeter University in a study presented to the Government last year, through the bias of the National Curriculum towards

ation ever known.

forse, the girls who slog so hard at as likely as the same boys to get Firsts or Upper Seconds at university. And the higher, the fewer. Ninety years since the first woman professor was appointed, only one professor in 20 is female. At the end of this, girls emerge into a world the first equal opportunities and pay legislation in 1975, women are still only getting around two-thirds of what a man receives for the same work. And, of course, he still needs two-thirds more domestic burden will smoothly fall on our young girl's shoulders as in tradition.

With these eternal and apparently unchangeable sullen realities of worklife and home, no wonder the image of the New Girl striking out carelessly into the future has proved so seductive. The New Girl expects a job which she can turn into a career, and a salary to match. She wants her own place, a car, and the accoutrements that go with her life-style, she wants the freedom to travel and the fun of having sex when she wants it and not

when she doesn't, along with the right to expect "a commitment" when she is ready What she dangerously resembles is a complete inversion, almost a parody of the most dismal stereotype of manhood, the selfish, career-obsessed, dick-driven dork who only screws and bolts.

For all her flaunted femininity then, the Wonderbras, the achingly short skirts and fuck-me shoes, the New Girl is in fact a real lad in drag, Freedom for girls must not team games "for the lads". Over-protected involve aping or taking men's, especially

been forced from the strongholds of patriarchy men are failing in droves, as husschool are still held hack at degree human survivors. Male suicide in the age-level. The girls who so easily do bet-group 15-25 has tripled in the decades mothers, born knowing that a woman

oday's young women have been robbed of the illusion of the powerful protector and provider. ("Prince Charming?" Angela Phillips imagines them saying, "Haven't seen him for ages"). Many where even after 21 years of effort since now sturdily resolve to go it alone, in another eerie parody of a classic male obsession, the myth of heroic lone endeavour. This course is likely to he as difficult, dangerous and dysfunctional for most women as it always was for the desperaleisure time than a woman, so the unfair dos alone on the range. We do not win equality and fulfilment for women by reenacting all men's mistakes. Men and women are designed by nature to share a world, and it is unreal for women to plan

In deciding to do without men, today's and believed they were and continually disappoint by failing to deliver. But to biologically, socially, and intellectually weaker than women is another historical revolution with perhaps far more pro- modern girl still has it all to do before she found implications than those we have considered so far. Those days of devaluing the female are gone, but if our young women cannot consider sharing their lives with men - as husbands, partners or simply friends - then they are depriving themselves of the fullness of human experience, not merely condemning young men to the frozen wastes of alienation

from which many do not return. The "I'm all right, Jack" sparky singu-

highest divorce rate this country has ever seen. Much of their go-it-alone thinking bands, fathers, bread-winners, even as is seen as a triumph of feminism, the first group 15-25 has tripled in the decades mothers, born knowing that a woman without a man is like a fish without a bicycle, and determined to go forth uncluttered to conquer the world. But many of their mothers were not victors but historical casualties of feminism, individually unable to profit from that great revolution in thought. Many of them raised their consciousness enough to leave their marriages, hut not enough to stop them desperately and often unsuccessfully seeking another to take its place. They were also often too late or too unconfident to hit the newly opening career trail. They are the many bitterly discontented, divorced middle-aged women who have finished up with neither love nor work. The danger then is that today's girls are in fact living out mothers' resentments, not their own golden land-of-promise aspirations.

And all this does not even begin to girls are in effect punishing them for not tackle the intractable prospect of wanting being strong, capable, all we once hoped to hring a child into a world of work that takes no account of the family needs of men, let alone those of the mothers of the reject men as partners because they are future workers of the world. With the "having-it-all" formula looking more and more like "doing it all", it is clear that the can inherit the earth.

And yet. As I meet these bold, brilliant creatures who talk with such uncanny fluency, these cock-eyed optimists who take for granted what we have been trying to tell them for the past 20 years, I can't help thinking that if anyone can do it, they can.

The author is married with grown-up children. She is a contributing editor of Cosmopolitan magazine.

We invite female readers aged 13-18 to fill in our questionnaire - anonymously but honestly, please - and return it by Tuesday morning. We will report your answers in the final part of our series on Wednesday State your your age, the type of school/college you attend, and the town or area you live in in the space provided, and send your answers to: Making of the Modern Girl, Features Department, The Independent, 1 Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5DL

Have you ever asked a boy out on yes 🗀 no How many sexual partners have less than five 🔲 more than five Do you drink alcoho!? yes no

If yes, what and how often? How many cigarettes do you

Have you tried drugs? □ yes □ no If yes, which ones and how often?

How much pocket money do you get?

Do you earn any money less than £10 a week less than £20 a week Is doing well at school important not at all

very very What career woold you like?

Would you mind if your partner earned a lot less thao you? yes 🗋 no Would you mied being unmarried at 40? yes 🗎 no Would you mind being childless? yes 🔲 no Which high-profile woman would you most like to be?

Type of school/college/joh Town/area where you live

NEXT WEEK IN THE MAKING OF THE MODERN GIRL

Girls at Redborne Upper School and Community College in Ampthill, Bedfordshire, talk about how they see their place in the world



Sex, relationships and what boys are for "It would be all right if I could set down the rules. Iwas saying to my Mum that I'd quite fancy a weekend boyfriend who didn't get in a mood or care if I didn't want to see him in the week." Louise Wilson, 15



How do girls get what they want? "Girls are better at getting their own way than boys boys give up so easily. If their first attempt fails,

girls will keep trying. And they argue better - they know what to say at the right time." Rachael Sanders, 13



Where do we go from here? "I've always imagined myself as a powerful career woman - but then I'll think 'Oh, who wants a career? Let's just have babies!' My Mum works, she loves her job but she comes home and sbe's tired." Ruth Milway, 18

DISCOUNT

Shopping

The fanatic's guide to factory shopping

Julie Aschkenazy meets Gill Cutress, guru of bargain hunters

ill Cutress is any job and factory shops and are a way life there. I saw a bedrooms and ended up having. Yet the red sign for one and stopped the sign for one an ब्ब्यु sale stickers of high tempt her. She prefers to go to the source: the factory shops. Over the past 10 years she made a career of visiting over 1,200 shops and has travelled more than a quarter of a million miles in search of the ulti-

It is in these totten well hidden) factory shops that manufacturers sell off samples, excess and returned items, ends-of-lines and those goods which fail to meet quality controls, to the general public. Shoppers can normally expect to save 30 per cent, sometimes 50 per cent on the high street prices and occasionally as much as 70 per cent which Gill

"I got into factory shop-

car out of curiosity. I didn't know what a factory shop was at that stage. I found a terrific range of items and bought myself a dressing gown at a very good price. I thought: I'll get a book about these shops." It turned out that no such hook existed.

Redundancy from work provided Gill with an opportunity to do some hard research and put together a publication. Thus the series of Factory Shop Guides was

I had pictured a home cottage industry and was rather surprised when I discovered the Factory Shop premises were smart Claphan Mews offices where Gill and her partner Rolf Stricker, are helped by six part-timers, "It just snowballed, Rolf joined me after ping by accident," she the first two years because I

on the edge of the hath. So we had to get premises. Everything is done in-house from research to publicity and approaching book shops. By their nature, the shops

are often situated in the back

of beyond and publicity is patchy, to say the least. Some are happy to invite the public in, others are a little more sensitive as they don't want to alienate high street chains by making it obvious they are selling direct to the public at low prices. "The sensitivity is much reduced from when I started," says Gill, "In some eases it is still there. But factory shopping is different to high street shopping. High streets won't sell last season's colours or anything slightly

Although bargains range from pairs of socks upwards. the best savings can be had explains. "I had been trans- was in a state of collapse. We at the upper end of the ferred to Nottinghamshire used to work from home but spectrum. Designer wear,

selective over the years. My best ever bargain to wear was a designer cashmere dress for £90) (the high street price was £450]. My partner and I describe ourselves as walking rejects, everything we wear, huy for the house or put into the garden comes from a

factory shop. One of the hest buys for the house is carpeting. You may be spending several hundred pounds but at the same time you save hundreds. We bought an industrial-strength stair carpet for £40 which a hotel had commissioned. The factory was unable to stop the machines on the exact numher of yards so there were overruns and remnants which we were able to snap up."

Another good reason for seeking out carpet factories is that, unlike at high street shops that have fixed stock, it become involved in the you could get hooked.

production process. Some factory shops will oblige you by making unusual widths or dying to your own colour specification at no extra cost. Furniture, too, is a good buy because of the big outlay-big savings equation. Another bonus is that here, too. you can sometimes have a say over the finished product—
the factory might be prepared
to make a piece to a particular size or stain it to match

your existing furniture.
Whether it's the thrill of the chase, the adrenalin that goes with rummaging in a bargain box of designer samples, or simply a day trip out for the family, such shopping can be a very variable experience. "I once got two letters in the same post bag about the same shop," says Gill.

One said the shop was very poor, the other said this is absolutely brilliant - I fixed up my 10 grandchildren with shirts and socks at unbelievis sometimes possible to ably low prices!" Watch out.

six of the best factory shops Bags and luggage: Bargain Baggage Factory Shop, Bugath House, Norham Rd, North Shields (0191 258 4451).

Carpets: Jorgus Carpets, Grimeford Mill, Grimeford Lane, Anderton (01257 482636).

BARGAIN

Knitwear: Alan Paine Knitwear-Ltd, Scats Country Store, Brighton Road, Godalming Surrey (01483 419962). Upholstery and curtain fabrics: Waterside Mill Shop, 359 Sheffield Road, Chesterfield, Derbyshire (01246 456886).

Glass and crystal: Caithness Glass Ltd, Visitors Centre, Inveralmond, Perth, (01738 637373).

Designer wear: Nicole Farhi and French Connection, 75-83 Fairfield Rd, London E3 (0181-981 3931 x203).

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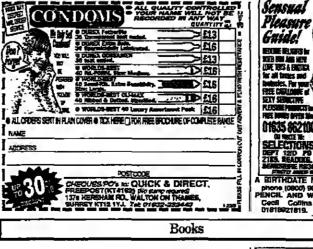
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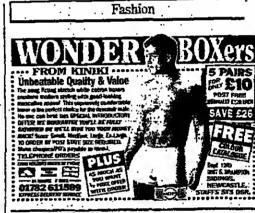
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Purveyors of spiritually wholesome whole food

Caring, sharing and wholefoods: that's what life is about at Daily Bread, the Christian Co-operative. By Tony Kelly

hopping and spirituality. The two words hardly trip off the tongue together. But in a warehouse on an industrial estate on the outskirts of Cambridge, a small group of Christians is trying to show that you can be a consumer with a conscience this Lent.

Walk into the Daily Bread Cooperative and you might think it was just another wholefood shop. There are no crosses on the walls; no religious music in the hackground (unless the staff happen to be engaged in their daily session of worship upstairs). Tempting displays of olives, nuts and honey sit alongside vegetables from a local organic farm. A coffee shop sells home-made cakes; a Traidcraft stall has Third World crafts. And then you notice, among the Indian earrings, a selection of "Christian wit-

"We don't go out of our way to push our Christian approach," says man-ager Andrew Hibhert, who founded Daily Bread after working at its sis-ter shop in Northampton. "We hope some of the atmosphere rubs off, but we want people to come because there's something worth coming for." And, indeed, it's worth coming here for the cheapest extra-virgin olive oil

A manager? In a Christian co-op? It doesn't sound quite right. "It's important to have management in any business, but all decisions are taken democratically at a weekly meeting and the tasks are genuinely shared." says Mr Hibbert. One of his jobs, for example, is cleaning the toilets. "I enjoy doing things like packing lentils and not just sitting at a desk all day,"

What else does it mean to run a our greed," says Mr Hibbert. business according to Christian prin- A leaflet, which is discreetly avail-



It's worth coming to Daily Bread for the cheapest extra-virgin ofive oil in Cambridge

ciples? "We're working towards a tithe, giving 10 per cent of our annual wage bill to charity," says co-op mcmber Gill Barker, A proportion of profits goes back each year to the developing countries from which much of the produce comes. Staff are all paid the same - cur-

rently £8,820 a year. "We pay ourselves enough for our need but not for

able to customers who take the trouble to look, makes the link with scripture: "... and they sold all their possessions and goods and distribnted them to all, as had any need" (Acts 2.45).

"I was at a conference of Christians In Bosiness recently." says Mr Hibbert, "and I thought to myself 'we're a darned sight more Christian than all

they work in business and go to church. Our whole business ethic is a Christian one

In a room beside the shop, a group of people recovering from nervous breakdowns are packing muesli into bags. This is not just tokenism; they are paid the same wage as everyone else and can become full members of the co-op in these people who call themselves due course. The long-term aim is for Christians In Business just because a 50-50 balance between "strong"

and "valnerable" staff. There is no requirement for this second group to be Christians, "Religion and illness don't necessarily mix," says Andrew Hibbert, "and it's not right to say that you will help someone but only if he or she is a Christian."

Pam was one of the original Daily Bread workers when it opened in 1992; she is now in charge of packing and also works on the till. Both she and her husband suffer from depression and their daughter is in care. "Sometimes it's easier to give up than to keep going," she admits, but she has kept going for four years. She is now buying a house on the proceeds of her earnings.

Michael has been at Daily Bread for three months and is still on trial, "Working here has given me a pur-pose in life," he says, "I can go out and buy things for myself now - the other day 1 bought a CD and a bag for bringing my sandwiches to work." Few other businesses would risk employine people like Michael and Pam - it might not be economic.

That seems to fit with the Christian ethics. But what about the products - why concentrate on wholefoods? What is particularly Christian about brown rice and Bombay mix? The sharing of food is a Christian thing to do; the Last Supper is an example of how to share good simple food together," says Mr Hibbert. "Wholefoods are basic foods and we sell them at a good price. By selling them in bulk we keep them cheap. save packaging and encourage people to buy in groups and share. Some of our customers get together for split-

Daily Bread Co-operative, Kilmaine Close, Kings Hedges, Cambridge (01223 423177). Closed Sundays and

Six of the best Soap dishes

scap dish inset.

and coloured glass

beads. A hit



eccentric but immensely stylish, although perhaps not very practical - sludgy soap gets trapped heneath its spirals. From Harvey Nichols, Knightsbridge, London SW1.

Harrods Vine soap dish, £109 Made from

resin with embedded gold leaf. Very ornate for those who think hath time is

ahout decadence. And the price is decadent, too - if you're feeling rich this would make a good present for someone who already possesses all of life's necessities. From Harrods, Knightshridge, London SW1.

Mac Products bath taps soap dish, £16 This soap dish comes in white fine bone china with a green illustration of a distinguished gentleman. One for those who like the look of Victorian memorabilia, From Selfridges, Oxford

Street, London, W1.



Metal soap dish, £13.95 The upper tray has holes to drain away excess water tray. Very clinical: fur those who like their bathrooms minimalist. modern മാർ

London, W1,

masculine. From Liberty, Regent Street,

5 Heals, £19.95 You can't really go wrong with this blue-and-white soap dish - it's so From Heals, 196 Tottenham Court



Road, London W1 and 234 Kings Road, London SW3.

The Conran Shop, £6.95 A Uvery good price for something that look so stylish. Resis on three pronged feet and is very user friendly as the shape is perfect for scooping out

slippery soap. From The Conran Shop. Michelin House, 81 Fulham Road, London

Stylist: Charlie Harrington

looking. become bestsellers if their settings

depict blood

British. Innocent-looking tiepins, for example, not only have a reputation as quick-thrust spy weapons but become bestsellers if their gem settings depict blood sports. A collection of 135 of them, "property of a gentle-man", at Sotheby's on Thursday (10.30am) bas plenty of foxes, bounds, huntsmen and game. Four fox pins, decorated with rose diamonds and cabochon rubies for eyes, are estimated £400-£600. There are also jockeys, a motor car, a champagne bottle, a monkey, and two diamond aeroplanes est £300-£400 the pair.

The earliest tiepins prevented the knots of 18th-century stocks auctions strong in tribal £1,500. (neck-scarves) and 19th-century cravats from unravelling. After the invention of the more stable Windsor knot they were used to

lence seem to appeal to the worst nightmare - accidentally trapping their tie in a drawer.

Sotheby's auctioneer Alexandra Rhodes, author of the definitive Hatpins and Tiepins (Lutterworth, 1982) points out that they also legitimised the 19th- and early 20th-century male's urge to wear jewellery. Tiepin fashions closely followed women's jewellery fashions - the 19th-century cameo, for example. Sixties psychedelic ties finally swamped in price. Now, Continental and Hancock's reports that young and greater buying power has men are buying them again. And what sort of tribal art

appeals most to the bloodthirsty British? Weapons, of course. At Brits - have stuck at £1,000weaponry, a surfeit of British bidders will push up the prices of even Fijian fishing spears from their usual £75 to £750 each. pin tie to shirt, rescuing Victorian Non-belligerent carved wooden no walk-in tribal art shop. Here.

Collectables with a touch of vio- and Edwardian clerks from their figures can fetch astronomic prices, far higher than weapons but it is the Americans, Belgians, Swiss, French and Germans who compete for them rather than

> In Edwardian times, when London tribal art sales were dominated by the British, you could buy an early 19th-century Raratongan figure for about £3 and a New Guinea wooden war shield for 15s - not that much difference them, but the London silversmith American refinement of taste pushed the price of Raratongan figures up to £500,000, while New Guinea shields - mostly for the

> > The Art of Africa exhibition at the Royal Academy did little to spur the British into buying tribal art. Unlike Paris, London still has

the two or three dealer/collectors trade from home. The dominance of foreign money at London tribal art auctions became most visible in December, when a rail strike in France dissuaded American and Continentals from including London in their traditional round trip. Takings at London tribal art

auctions took a dive. Among the more exotic offerings at Tuesday's tribal art sale at South Kensington [10.30am) is a the Arcuña Indians of Chile, estimated £200-£250 and a pair of Australian aborigine feather shoes (£600-£800). Australian collectors are expected to bid them up. Most rapidly rising prices are for the tribal art of South and East. Africa. Wooden head-rests from there, worth £10 10 years ago. now sell for £300-£400 - due to racial reconciliation and guilt.

Three antiquarian book col-

lections full of curios at Sotheby's, Thursday and Friday (both 10.30am): Borneo, Napoleon and agriculture. Markham's "Masterpiece" of 1008 advising the smith. farrier and horse leech (£200-£250) shows that the 17th century farrier could teach his modern counterpart a thing or two.

Best of the rest: former trade union leader Clive Jenkins's collection of commemorative pair of goose breast britches from ceramics, Phillips. Monday (10am); collection of dogs and cats in art of Count Alarico Palmieri. Christie's Thursday (11am): Victorian pictures, Sotheby's Wednesday (11am), Christie's Friday (10,30am): modern Brits, Christie's South Ken. Thursday (10.30am): applied arts from 1880, Sotheby's Friday (10.30am).

John Windsor

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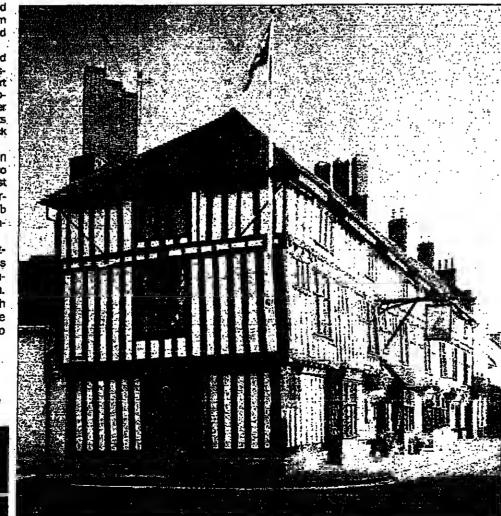
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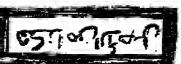
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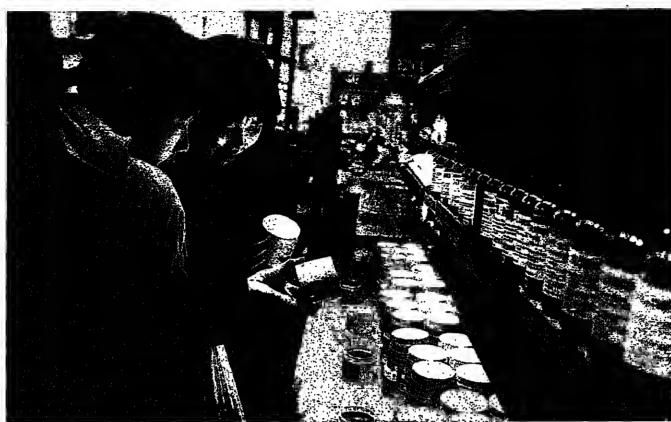
You're not supposed to eat the Pineapple Grunt: you're supposed to wear it

Caroline Donald visits Lush, the firm that makes cosmetics from comestibles

f ever there were a shop that justified the term "whacky", it would be Lush. Enter one of its three hranches - in London's Covent Garden and Kings Road, or in the High Street, Poole, Dorset - and you are confronted by pineapples and honeycomb. Over on the fridge counter are bowls of wholesomelooking gloop with names such as Atholbrose. Staff of Life and More Than Mortal. The wooden dresser-shelves are lined with moulded balls the size of apples and oranges. And jolly, handwritten notices, sprinkled liberally with exclamation marks, exhort the customer to try the wares. Tempting as it looks, however, it would not be a good idea to eat your slice of Pineapple Grunt, cut from one of the blocks on the counter and wrapped in greascproof paper. This is not a food emporium but a cosmetics shop. Lush's managing director,

Mark Constantine, says there are "food legalities" that prevent the company from taking the joke too far, but a visit to the factory in Poole left me with the impression that, even if you did tuck into one of Lush's products, you would prohably find it nutritious. The company, though, does use synthetic preservatives in the products that are expected to have long shelf lives. Passing by rooms full of honeycombs and sprouting wheatgrass, I watched Lorraine the labels tell you who made what, when) cooking up H'Suan Wen Hua - a hair treatment conditioner, with free-range eggs. avocado, hanana, halsamic vinegar, watercress, bay leaves and olive oil. This seemed more like a superior soup kitchen than a

soap factory. For those who are used to cosmetics in dainty pots. Lush is a bit of a culture shock: the Angels on Bare Skin cleanser is, frankly, grey. I found that the petuls in the Luverly "bath hallistic" (fizzing hath salts) clogged up the plug hole for days. As in recycled paper, or unbleached cotton, you have to temper your expectations.



There's a very july, back-to-basics ethos about the new cosmetics producer, Lush. So far, it's proved an extremely successful formula, as the appreciative throngs of people in the company's London Kings Road stop show throngs of people in the company's London Kings Road shop show

company is the air of corporate jollity, from the names it gives its products - Tisty Tosty bath bal-listic, Scullery Made hand and body lotion. Back for Breakfast shower gel - to the chatty newsletter/mail-order form ("hands up everyone with dry skin but who still insists on having the shower water too hot"). This sort of happy-go-lucky approach will he instantly recogniseable to the million or so people who were on the list of mail-order firm Cosmetics To Go (CTG), the previous incarnation of the creative team behind Lush, headed by Mark Constantine.

The tale of Mr Constantine and company's fortunes over the last 20 years is a reflection of the changing face (so to speak) of the

A distinguishing mark of the country. In the Seventies, they worked with the Body Shop on such staples as Pineapple Facial Wash and Cocoa Butter hand and body lotion. "We had some lovely times with them. It was just like joining a whirlwind," says Mr Constantine, In 1988, Mr Constantine, his wife Mo and their team decided to set up on their own, and started CTG, which was, again, hugely popular, However, CTG became a victim of its own success, and when a discounted product brought in 130,000 phone calls in a week, coupled with water leak into the computer system, it all became too much and the company went into administration in January 1994. It is now owned by some-

When Mr Constantine's col-

league, Helen Ambrosen, started to look again at some of the 10,000 formulae the team had accumulated over the years, it was not long before others joined her. Having sold all their equipment, it was a case of improvisation. "At first we had just one beaker to use between us," says Ms Ambrosen. Gradually, they gathered together what they could muster, using domestic food processors to mix the ingredients, plastic buckets, drainpipes, and even the top of a child's toy box as soap moulds. Regular trips were made to the local supermarket to buy fruit and vegetables with which to

experiment. The company now uses a local wholesaler for its fruit and veg, but the back-to-basics ethos

remains. "It is nice that the sim-

plicity is successful," says Mr

Constantine, "It wasn't contrived,

You just do what you can do with no money."
Both the Kings Road branch and the mail-order side of the business are taking over 1,000 orders a day. With a new factory and two branches recently opened in Vancouver, Canada, Mark Constantine has much to be proud of. But he is proceeding cautiously, knowing by experience that pride comes before a fall. "I'm just grateful to be here. And grateful that people like our stuff.

> Lush, 29 High Street, Poole, Dorset (mail-order 01202 London SW3; 7 The Market, Covent Garden, London WC2.



Good thing

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POOR

David

get object but he cares, conceded the object. The fact that he cares to be a virtuoso to this style: It is more important to have the eff incline and strangely, angst-ridden
taghettable though he is, Woody Allen has
teld a miled the Talegraph. New Orleans jazz is
allow tree-flowing, collective improvisation Proper metadles interviewe informatly, joyfully or postmicity and always naturally. But Woody and its wooden gaing seem to have lost the plot. Respond the FT. "Unitoubtedly a better tist trien Naomi Campbell is a novelist.

If you are hear than in New York Others, allege. The Wife Aphanoite, with a sorting, opens on 12 April 2 April

THE GIG

WOODY ALLEN

The resident claricettest on Monday rights at Michael's Public Machattan made a rare British application as the food gig in a European tour

d Lister was underwhelmed. The band

Played very competently but with no great verve of slippese. A straightforward, fast moving institutioning, enthus astic retreating of early jazz dasses. The may not be the world's greatest.

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THE FILM

TOY STORY

Adam Mars Jones was impressed. "A remarkably high quotient of jokes, visual and verbal... As much of a landmark in cartoon as Who Framed Roger Rebbit, without being quite so herric." A gent. The ingenious, with script proceeds to work marriels: The most fun in town," saluted Time Out. Temfically entertaining, guaranteed to wow audiences," enthused Empire. "It's about as far from old-fashioned Cisney as we can get... it represents the kind of world that modern kics inhabit, touched with lechnical genius," applauded the Guardian. Whatever unfathomable technology brought foy Story into being, the completed film is delightfully user-friendly," grinned the Times.
"Brings the same articulately gymnastic." camerawork to the animated feature that Kelly and Donen brought to the musical in Singin' in the . Rain ... entrancing "eulogised the FT.

Rated PG; B1 minutes long, starring Torn Hamis (in voice over) and now at every possible cinema near you, not to mention the merchandising ...

cinematic ranty; wit. A great

kids',--and adults' - movie.

noteworthy new items, it seems less shackled overall by prodish conventions of what is - and isn't - suitable lodder for the ballet stage." Diamond makes them look glenous, freezing the dance into sharp quivering angles and then letting it fly and dip on its own momentum... a piece of fine passion and austerity... Wheeldon's Souvenir (has) a gift for surprising detail that cames a liberating feeling of guidness, sang the Guardian. Souvenir is wholly delightful... Movement is born of the music. The language is traditional but not state; Wheeldon speaks it with his own youthful lyncism and sense of its possibilities. A charmer. charmingly danced, and I have high hopes for Wheeldon's luture," cheered the FT.

THE DANCE

DANCE BITES

Hew work from energographers Ashley Page,

Christopher Wheeldon, Emma Diamond and Tom

Sapsford for the Royal Ballet's annual small-scale

thur dashed by Adam Cooper, Deborah Bull et al.

Scottle Constanti praised Page and Diamond, plus

Sapstord's eroticism and alegance. "While this

year's programme isn't exactly primming with

Sheffield Lyceum tonight (0114-276 9922); then touring to Blackpool (01253 28372) 25-26 March and Bath (01225 448844) 28-30 March. The concerts are over, but listen to his revelatory recording of Tchaikovsky's Pathétique or his stunning set of Scarlatti piano sonatas on Virgin.

THE CONCERT

MIKHAIL PLETNEY

Russian planist-turned-conductor Mikhail Pietnev

Robert Cowan bowed before Pletnev's maslery of

shaped... A Rachmaninov Second Symphony that

was without fuss, without cuts and without the

slightest hint of disfiguring overstatement. The

preconceptions and changes minds." Just when

coming from, here was a vivid demonstration that

such musicians do exist," exclaimed the Times.

one of the great wizards of orchestration, but

Pletnev's performance reminds you just how subtle his use of orchestral colour can be. As a

"Racrimaninov's name doesn't spring to mind as

conductor, Pletnev is eccentric, erratic and often

the audience in Symphony Hall was wondering

where the next britliant young conductor was

sort of performance that challenges

the repertoire. "Tchaikovsky's Third Orchestral

Suite was so affectionate, playful and artfully

conducted concerts with the CBSO and the

Philiparmonia Orchestra playing Prokofiev,

Tchaikovsky and Rachmaninov.

A mixed bag, but the cream of the company are on display, including Cooper, Durante and



The Rachmaninov CD is impressive; but live was better.

thrilling," trumpeted the Guardian.



NEXT WEEK ON THE ARTS PAGES

As the Houyhnhims and Yahoos invade a television screen near you, Michael Church. reflects on the perennial accuracy of Dean-Swift's satirical shafts

Wednesday

David Cohen reviews the latest showing from Stephen Cox, a British sculptor who plies his chisei alongside india's Hindu temple masons

On the day that the European Court rules upon Britain's ancient blasphemy laws, Tom Dewe Matthews profiles professional pomographer Nigel Wyngrove

Thursday

Rory Bremner (right) teaches Jasper Rees how to make a good impression on TV

And, talking of masters of disguise, James Rampton compiles an-identikit picture of Sir Alec Guinness, from Smiley to Star Wars



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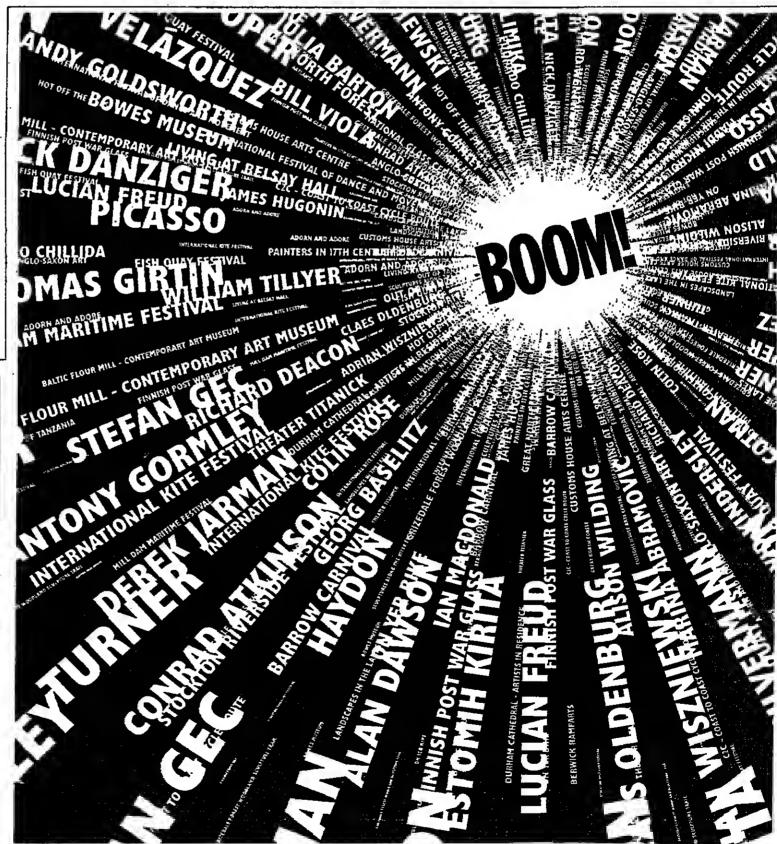
RICKMAN WINSLET GRANT THOMPSON

"THE PACIEST, WITTIEST, MOST ENTERTAINING ROMANTIC COMEDY SINCE FOUR WEDDINGS AND A FUNERAL." * * * * *



EMMATHYMPSON ALAN RICCMAN KATE WINSLET AND HUGH GRANT " INTRUCK DOTTLE ACTIVITIONLY BEARM AND TOHN BRUGHT THE SOURCE TEST LUCIANA ARRIGHT AND MICHAEL COURTER AND A MANES SCHAMES AND EMPIRE BORG ATESYDNEY HOLLACK TEENINE AUSTEN THE BUILD THOMPSON THE LINDSRY DORAN THE ANGLE

OWING AT CINEMAS ACROS



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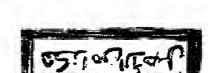
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SSPREEPS

IST ENCOUNTERS

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We can fantasise, but technological wizardry won't solve the problem of violence

Accountant. The occasions were invariably squabbles over equity who had been more generous with their wine gums? Who had churlishly hoarded their Vimto while freely partaking of another's Cydrax? What was needed, I realised, was an incontestable arbiter, a divine referee who would fally every finy, unremembered act of exchange and deliver the bottom-line - the proof that I had been insufferably wronged and that my brother should hand over some Midget Gems at once. At the time I thought God was the best equipped for this task - because of his qualities of omnipresence and divine impartiality. But it isn't rat MP, who called for legislation

supernatural resolution to a

humanly insoluble problem. I was reminded of this by the recent public debate over the V-chip, a cheap electronic gizmo that can be programmed to exclude violent or sexual images from a domestic television. In a perfect demonstration of involuntary reflex - the fact that a sudden impact on the body politic will produce a convulsive action without conscious involvement of the brain - several people took the view that the massacre at Dunblane constituted a powerful argument for the V-chip. Among them was David Alton, the Liberal Democessentially a religious daydream to make its installation compulsory

When I was a small child I (the opposite, perhaps, given that or occasionally used to have a fantasy about a Universal tion). It is a dream of magic, of wish, I wish we could stop children wish, I wish we could stop children seeing these unpleasant things," thought Alton, and then the genie in the chip appeared to do his bidding. For just 60 pence, a messy, intractable human duty - that of schooling your children in the ugly ways of the world - could be

waved away, as by a wand-It wasn't the first time that technological wizardry has been called on to make problems disappear electronic tagging had an equally childish appeal (literally, in that case, as the idea first appeared in a Spiderman comic). But it wasn't long before it became clear that the invisible prison was actually the Emperor's New Building. Nonetheless, those who support



deal - a switch by means of which we can turn off moral corruption.

Naturally there is a catch, as in most bargains with genies. The objections to the V-chip proposal are fairly obvious. For one thing it has to be programmed to work. and it seems unlikely that the right people will bother. Smoke alarms are largely bought by middle-class, non-smoking home-owners, the sort of people who unplug the television before they go to bed the V-chip talk of it as the perfect and have furniture made out of

alarms are not big in the spending priorities of those who like to drift off to sleep on a petro-chemical sofa with a can of Tennent's in one hand and a lighted fag in the other. On a similar principle the Vchip will be employed principally by those who don't really need it, happily ignored by those who do. There are other problems - technology is notoriously turnable. particularly by bright teenagers in search of cheap kicks without all that tedious context, Besides, who

will decide what constitutes a potentially deranging image? How will the V-chip's hidden controllers discriminate between Titus Andronicus and PowerRangers? Even if you support Mr Alton's aims, it must be clear that the Vchip won't advance them by a sin-

a devout wish for one bodied forth

in silicon and plastic. that the only way V-chips could prevent a future Dunblane would them on top of the potential psy-chopath, I can't quite stop myself toying with its magic, as you might fantasise abont what you could do if you were invisible or, even better, were given three wishes by the bag-crone you have helped across

various reasons. First of all I would programme it to turn the sound down whenever the adverts; appeared, so that I wasn't jarred by that sneaky nudge in volume; after that I might use it to remove

non-combustible hessian; smoke gle inch - it is not a solution, just from documentaries all scenes in which the presenter travels down an American freeway while flick-The knowledge hardly cancels ing through the local radio sta-the allure. Even though I believe nous. I would do away with all appearances by Michael Howard, prevent a future Dunblane would replacing him, as soon as technologie if you dropped a skipload of ogy permits, with an overlayed and mation of Dick Dastardly, from whose mouth that creepy tabble rousing would emerge in perfect synchronisation. I would ensure that no drama in which the characters said "We have to talk" would ever cast its flickering light over me again. I would arrange is I would like a V-chip myself for a tasteful blue lozenge to mask the sight of Richard Branson's lower lip whenever he appeared in screen. Wishful thinking can quite enjoyable, you see, but it really shouldn't be mistaken for a

Thank my nairdresser...

Monday is Oscar's night in LA. But florists, chauffeurs, trainers have been planning for weeks. By Daniel Jeffreys

ednesday: there's mayhem in Charlie with more than 200 gorgeous stars.

It's Oscar night, 25 March. The night to see and be seen, to fret about which parties are hot and whether the dress is too tight or the wrong shade of ivory. But whatever its excesses. Oscar night could not happen without Charlie the Car. For 12 years, his limousing service has been the biggest in Beverly Hills. Roseanne has been sick in the back of one of his limos. Ton: Cruise and Nicole Kidman made out in the back of one of his Cadillacs. Horky is a vital cog in the Oscar machine, part of an unseen army.

"Everybody has to be in their seats by 5.30 LA time because the broadcast is geared to the East Coast, which is three hours ahead." Horky says, "It can take two hours to travel three miles the traffic jams are unbelievable. I meet with the Los Angeles police months in advance to make sure all our drivers get through. I tell all our clients they must be on the road by 3.30pm." Horky's limousines are supplied with cham-

pagne, vooka, beer, soda and water with ice. He also carries pantihose. "Our most common crisis is snagged tights. We keep six shades in every car. It saved Demi Moore last year."

Salvation comes in many forms. In award week, LA's A-list hairdressers, dressmakers, personal trainers and chefs are all booked solid. "We have been fully booked on 25 March for five months. It will be erazy in here," says celebrity crimper Christophe, "I close on Oscar day." shrugs hair siylisi Art Luna. "I just make house calls to clients like Annette Bening."

At Fred Hayman's Hollywood store, fashion consultants have been overwhelmed since February. "This year's fashions have much more colour." says Hayman's Ayre Gill. "Sharon Stone is leading the fashion pack - her Valentino gown is a knockout."

It had better be. All the big designers compete to dress the stars. After nominations, every contender gets letters of solicitation from Armani, Versace, Richard Tyler and on, down the list. No actress pays a penny; the designers all but beg to have their frocks on display. Calvin Klein has scored big: Sandra Bullock, Goldie Hawn and John Travolta will wear his label. Unfortunately, you can also expect to see men in some wacky, not to say tacky, styles,

"The tuxedo is being re-interpreted," says Party Fox, the Academy's fashion consultant. One can only imagine. "There will be full-length jackets, iridescent burgundy and liquid black material." Nice. At least the ladies will be spared embarrassment. "We consult with all the presenters and nonunces," says Fox, "to make sure they don't turn up in the same dress." The horror, the horror.

Vera Wang is also hot, Mare Winnigham, star of Georgia, will wear Wang, who has also made four gowns for nominees and presenters. "It takes us about a month and a half to design a dress," says Wang's Tory Robinson, "The final fitting is the night before. We tell our ladies to

lay off the ice-cream until Tuesday morning." Whoopi Goldherg will host the Oscars in Donna Karan, matched with diamond carrings and a diamond tennis bracelet worth more than one million dollars. "I asked Donna to make mesomething that can be comfortable for all that time I'm on stage." Goldherg says, "I do not need to be in a sheath dress with six-inch heels." roses in jewelled tones and green fern. The food will be prepared by more than 50 chefs."

Fashion makes a statement, flowers say. Horky's office. "I need 10 Rolls-Royces by Monday at noon." he screams down the phone. "You promised me 10, Don't screw me."

Flower Fashions in the Beverly Wilshire Hotel (the place to stay and sold out for Oscar night since last November) took delivery of five tons of extra-large Ecuadorate forest of Strades. promised me 10. Don't screw me." of extra-large Ecuadorian roses this morning.

The handset hits its cradle with a crack "Lots of people send out flowers on Sunday," and the owner of CLS Transportation moves on wishing people good luck," says Fred Gibbons. to the next problem. By midnight on Monday, who used to get orders from President Kennedy his 100 limos will have made more than 500 trips every Oscar weekend to send white roses to "Sharon Stone was in here last week sending

flowers to Martin Scorsese," he says. "We also send out more than 1,000 orders the day after. to all the winners and presenters. It's a little nutty, you might call it excessive. There's an atmosphere of one-upmanship. Last year we sent more than 100 different arrangements to Jessica Lange after she won Best Actress. When somebody wins, everybody wants to be their friend." Some don't have the time to stop and smell

the roses. The moment the names are announced we get calls," says Jake at Body by Jake. "The women want to trim down in time. We have designed six special programmes combining diet and exercise that are varied to meet the size of the problem."

That can be vast. "Last year we had a big star. I can't say her name. She needed to lose 201b in four days. We put her on the treadmill and fed her nothing but camomile tea." Jake's clients include John Travolta, Sharon Stone and Meryl Streep. "The Oscars are seen by more than one illion people; it's not the night to look flabby." Or underdressed. Jeweller Harry Winston will

make sure that every important actress at the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion gets to shine like the star she is. "We meet with celebrity clients from January onwards, looking for the right styles," says Ed Callaghan at the Beverly Hills branch. Big stones and settings are in this year."

Winston offers a great deal. His gems cost millions, but for Oscar night he lends them. "We think it is a privilege and an honour," says Callaghan. You bet, plus Harry must get a big kick out of purring over all those beautiful dames, who this year include Whoopi, Elisabeth Shue (Leaving Las tigas, Best Actress), Susan Sarandon (Dead Man Walking, Best Actress). and our very own Emma (Sense and Sensibility, Best Actress and Best Screenplay).

'Miss Thompson will be wearing two-carat diamond carstuds in platinum. says Callaghan. They retail for about \$200,000." Tip money compared to Susan Sarandon, the big favourite to win. "We have dressed her in sapphire-anddiamond bracelets with carrings to match." Price? "Oh. probably around \$1.5m."

Those who don't get invited to borrow Winston's gems have to find their own. Competition to get on his list can equal the fight for an Oscar, "Actresses have been upset," says Callaghan. That's an understatement. One famous English actress once screamed abuse at employees for half an hour after she had not heen asked to flaunt Harry's rocks.

The jewels are important, not just because of the awards; they also come in handy at the post-Oscar parties. The granddaddy, the Governors' Ball, is held next to the Academy auditorium. Some of the 2,000 extra security guards hired every year will funnel the newly crowned royalty of film into an extravaganza that entered its

planning stage 10 months ago. "This year will be the most fabulous ever." says David Corwin of the aptly named Ambrosia productions. "There will be 160 tables for 1,600 guests. The centrepiece will be 5ft high with French tulips.



Imagine you have just won an Oscar. You trip lightly down darkened corridors past some of the 1.200 members of the Awards' audience who don't have a ball ticket. You then enter Corwin's creation. Forty-one thousand square feet of can-vas stretch the length of a football field. It has been artfully decorated with Lycra and Spandex screens to give the impression of a cathedral complete with flying buttresses.

Lighting makes the ceiling look a deep blue. like the night sky. From above hang chandeliers, each one weighing more than 1,000lb and incorporating hand-blown glass sculptures. You sit at your table and eat free-range veal followed by Oscar's favourite chocolate cake with wild berries. You are in heaven.

"The setting will cost millions of dollars," says Corwin. Nothing like it will have been seen before. Sadly, few members of the moviegoing public will get a glimpse. Cameras are forbidden - if the stars try to bring their own they will be confiscated.7

The dedicated star has to make all the big parties. Miramax, with 11 nominations for II Postino and Georgia, will hold its party in Spago's, where the legendary agent "Swifty" Lazar used to hold court. After his death, the award for Best Party became an open race. The Miramax bash will be jostling with Vanity Fair's bank vault. Come Monday, Johnson and Gar-

do at Morton's, the ultimate Hollywood power restaurant. Wolfgarig Puck, Spago's innovative chef, is also making his duck pizzas for the Governors' Ball and has hired two helicopters to shuttle him between the two. He expects to make the journey at least four times.

"Getting the guest list right is so important," says Beth Kesniak, the Vanity Fair organiser. We have had screaming matches. Last year one actress was turned away at the door holding her Oscar because a young assistant didn't recognise her. But it's a wonderful evening, nothing is overdone." Surely she jests? "I mean, I'm from New York and, yes, the people are overdone, but everything else is subtle."

Meanwhile, Emma Thompson will be fêted by Columbia at Drai's. "We have been badgered for tickets by BBC people for weeks," moans Drai's Adam Gordon. "I'm up to my ears in the BBC. Frankly, I have better things to do."

Army Archerd has covered the Oscars for Variety since 1972. "There is no one party that is the best any more," he sighs. "The party to be at will be the one for whoever wins."

The only people who know the winners now are Frank Johnson and Greg Garrison of Price Waterhouse. This weekend the names of this year's Best this and Best that sit in a downtown

rison will take their own copies of the envelopes and place them in briefcases chained to their wrists. Then they get into separate limousines which will take different routes to the ceremony.

The show will be produced this year by the record producer Quincy Jones, who also did the honours in 1994. He began rehearsals six weeks ago. "The show is a daunting logistical prob-tem," says Jones. "We have 22 cameras inside and three outside to make sure we get all the reactions from the nominees." All this week, cardboard cut-outs of the nominees have been placed in their designated seats and 36 actors have been hired to give phoney acceptance speeches (insiders say these are usually better

than the real thing).

Fifty Oscars will be distributed in over four. hours; each one took five hours to make by a hand-casting method first used in 1929. And each one is engraved with a serial number and will arrive inside an armoured car. "Once all the parties are over, this is what the winners have left," says Owen Siegel, who owns RS Owen, the Oscar manufacturer since 1983. The flowers: die. The hair falls down. The dresses go out of fashion. Nobody really recalls the parties. But when they wake up, there it is - the most famous. trophy on the planet. I think that's the moment every winner always, always remembers,"

EA White Sale Sale and The



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THEATRE Mary Stuart

When two Queens go to war. By Paul Taylor

The British theatre, we're often told, has shillyshallied over Schiller. That's true enough, though our neglect of Germany's great national dramatist has been rather less shameful this past decade. Three years ago (a mere two centuries after it was written), the RSC, for example, gave the English professional premiere of Wallenstein, an extraordinary epic study of the conflict between heroic character and the workings of Realpolitik. The Robbers, his youthful Shurm und Drang play and one uncannily pre-scient not just of the French Revolution but of its sobering aftermath, now regularly crops up on our stages, while the proudest record for Schiller revivals belongs to the Glasgow Citizens' Theatre, which recently mounted Don Carlos.

Slowly, we are beginning to overcome our two most powerful prejudices about this author. These are (a) that his plays are like posidated blueprints for Shakespearian drama and (b) that they have all the appeal of a Verdi opera minus the music.

Making a somewhat belated plunge into Schiller, the National Theatre is now staging Mary Smart, a play that focuses on the last days of its eponymous tragic heroine. It explores the contrast between Protestant Elizabeth, whose sexuality has been kept purched down to a certain grizzly flirtatiousness in the interests of state craft and Catholic Mary, who may have been betrayed by her impulsive sensuality but who, paradoxically less of a prisoner than her captor. has by the end decided to convert that physical energy into a sublime spiritual self-purification.

Howard Davies's production has a number of strong assets. Anna Massey, whose diction could kill at a hundred yards, and Isabelle Hunpert, whose Gallic-vowelled delivery sometimes sounce like an attempt to sprint through gluc. are both ideal in terms of physical presence. Under the white make-up and the orange wig. Massey's face is disturbingly simian and desiccated, her frame shrunken with bitterness. Fists shaking in pent-up frustration, the beautiful Huppert devours the stage with the animal vigour of a refined thoroughbred.



Gallic delivery: Isabelle Huppert devours the stage with the vigour of a refined thoronghired

Puzzlingly, though, the production appears to be suffering from a very English embarrassment at the play's moral seriousness. The watershed meeting of the queens at Fotheringay and Mary's sacramental preparation for death are handled well enough. It's just that, in this staging, they are

sively camp and winning depiction of the undignified workings of Realpolitik. Jeremy Sams's translation sets the tone for this when it has Tim Pigott-Smith's slippery, airily self-regarding Leicester describe the attempt to steer Elizabeth into a French marriage as "the wish to frogmarch in danger of making less impact than the exces- you - I use the word advisedly - to the altar".

There are some very funny sequences, such moments with an all-too-evident relief, as as the amazing scene where, having at last signed Mary's death warrant, Elizabeth, with a lofty, calculating evasiveness, leaves the but you feel that it's not the last, or even the responsibility for deciding whether to deliver it or not to an understandably terrified new courtier. The production falls on such

though happiest with what can be played for

Photograph: Stuart Morris

antepenultimate, word on Mary Stuart. Booking now until 30 May: 0171-928

laughs. This is a far from unrewarding evening,

CLASSICAL Cleveland Orchestra / Dohnányi (RFH, London). Nice programming, shame about the jet-lag. By Anthony Payne

It was Amosphères that introduced and exactness of Lighti's aural imagi- to flag as the concert progressed. many in this country to a newly beguiling and utterly original voice during the early 1960s. Some felt that what Ligeti had given us in his densely timbral work was a little too casily achieved and one-dimensional. What had happened to rhythm, thematic line and functional harmony? At first the baby appeared to have been thrown out with the bathwater, but closer acquaintance revealed a teeming activity within the slowly shifting soundmasses - a so-called micropolyphony - sonorities and three bars of silence that and the composer's timbral developments comprise. Ligeti's cadence into the seemed a fascinating substitute for car-

lier structural methods. Ligeti has come far since those days. exploring much more hard-edged material of late, but Atmospheres, which opened the Cleveland Orchestra's concert on Thursday, can still fascinate the car and engage the musical mind. If the progress from one conglomeration of sound-events to another seems at first

nation soon begin to make their compelling points. Certainly the orchestra secured our rapt attention with its fastidious and concentrated delivery of the work's vastly quiet processes under Christoph von Dohnányi.

At first sight, it looked odd to follow Amosphères with Wagner's Lohengrin prelude, but it proved a thought-provoking juxtaposition. Dohnányi moved without a break from the ghostly final poem, making an extraordinary link across the years.

The glowing progress of the prelude from radiant heights to richly sonorous middle-ground was firmly caught by Dohnányi and his orchestra, but the playing in this surprising opening linkage was not to he equalled later. Perhaps jet-lag had taken its toll but, for whatever reacasually improvisatory, the cogency son, energies and involvement seemed tural address.

In Schumann's Spring Synphony there was little of the eagerness and buoyancy which this inspirational music has it in its power to generate. Rhythms plodded and the glorious lyric spans remained obstinately earthbound. Whatever unthinking commentators have said in the past about Schumann's treatment of the orchestra, the sound of this music can glow and sparkle, but conductor and orchestra here failed to rise to its challenge.

Nor was Stravinsky's The Firebird, ing. Too many orchestral details were fluffed or blurred, and the impetuosity of the young composer's imagination was rarely given its due.

This was simply a great orchestra a little out of sorts with itself, and only in a touchingly performed encore from Berlioz's The Damnation of Faust did we hear a little more engagement and tex-

TELEVISION Between the Tides

The ravishing documentary that wants to be a ballet. By Jasper Rees

etween the Tides was a wildlife documentary that yearned to be something else; watery landscape painting, perhaps, or a soaring string quartet, or a fragrant prose poem. Anything, in short, but what the disciples of the genre expect: more Gainsborough than Attenborough.

The subject was Britain's estuaries, though as for which ones, the film kept its cards pretty close to its chest. The adjective "Hebridean" did once migrate lofuly across the soundtrack, but more hecause of its lyrical communion out of any keenness to pin these images to the map. Otherwise, the film took care not to get bogged down in anything so turgid as place names. There was the odd mention of "Africa" or "Greenland" hut in this context they sounded as imaginary as Illyria.

Photography this ravishing presents a troublesome dilemma to a wildlife pro-gramme maker. To justify their existence, these estuaries, we were advised, "but played out in the deepening light".

mation. But plain facts can look naked. so to pack the same aesthetic punch as the pictures, the captions have to be primped and plumped and read by Tom Conti ar his crackliest. A flock of geese are "a conquering army, thousands strong". They "pour in from the sea, spilling the wind to tumble earthwards in a sudden rush of made was more important.

In such a crowd of metaphors, one or

the words that accompany it are obliged time it wrong or walk too far from fixnier to impart the barest minimum of infor- land, and you are sure to drown". The land, and you are sure to drown". The Ancient Mariner is alive and well and working out of BBC Bristol

culated to deepen the mysteries of nature rather than explain them. There wings". Or maybe it was rushing the wind was the usual gobsmacking panoply of to pour earthwards in a sudden tumble of sunsets, rainbows and torrential showwings. Or pouring the earth to spill wing-wards in a sudden spill of wind. It actu-ally doesn't matter. The sound the words were freshly minted marvels: the geese spattered across the sky like flecks of paint; knots roosting at high tide like two were bound to get mixed. As the tide clustered refugees; of globulous water went out the creeks were "muddy arter- creeping in close up over the mud flats. ies"; by the time it turned they had grown In the finest shot of all the camera held "fingertips". And the sense of danger the firm as a flock of waders looped and film attempted to create was mere vul- swirled in and out of the frame towards gar sensationalism unworthy of its higher the cloudy horizon. A real perfor-





Send in the clowns

at the press call for the fourth annual Clown Parade. On Sunday, the clowns will march on Hackney, and attempt, through leafleting and falling over on banana skins, to woo children back to church. I am surrounded by 40 clowns, honking their horns, falling over banana skins, and so on. Forty clowns and 10 photographers. crowded into a tiny back room. It is a media circus (honk! honk!), a frenzy of organised pathos. The local vicar - cum organiser - is attempting to smile amiably through the chaos, but the tension on his face is palpable. "Excuse me."

announces. "Um. Excuse me. I have an announcement to make..." "Announcement! Announcement!" vells Fizzy-Lizzy the Clown, honking

"Anouncey-nouncy! Mousey Mousey Mousey!" screams Billy the Clown, his bow-tie flashing.

turnout is today, however, clowns stood at the very apex the numbers are down on last year, which was, in turn, way down on the year before. Like the Armistice Day commemorations, this venerable event is tinged with woeful statistics. The clowns are the backlash hegan, First dying off, and those that are Smokey Robinson suggested left are almost certainly cry- that the smiles on their faces ing on the inside. The main were only there just to fool the photo-opportunity, in fact, is public (a trivial yet potent

t is Tbursday, Dalston, reserved for the very old and slur). Thereafter, Ronald backstage in a small church very ailing Smokey the Clown, McDonald created a terrifywhose ariendance here sucing link between red noses ceeds in single-handedly perand the bloody genocide of sonifying the lamentable countless clowns, and John Osborne successfully implied demise of a cherished British that they all went home, drank tradition: a very old clown sita bottle of whisky, and ting in a church while clutching a Union Jack in his timeshouted at their wives. The worn, grease-paint splattered final nail in the coffin, bowhands - if only someone had thought to bring along an end of a pier with them, the set would have been complete. ever, arrived with the awful Consequently, the photographers flock. "Ooh," he wheezes. attempting to cover up his

shakily drawn black-ink "We're doing this," explains Smokey-the-Clown tattoo. the vicar, "to show that God "I'm afraid I can't do somersaults anymore. But hang on..." He fumbles around in his pocket for an age, and eventually retrieves a small plastic comedy spider. and put down that brick-bat "Ooh," he says, waving it in and lob a well-aimed custard front of the cameras. "Scary. pie instead.™

Ooh." And then he stares All metaphored out, I quiforlornly into space for a long time, to the palpable delight of the photographers.

It wasn't always this way, of As impressive as the course. As the century hegan, of comedy. There was nothing funnier than falling over, and those who fell over in a professional capacity were rewarded handsomely. As the decades progressed - sadly -

discovery that the serial killer, John Wayne Gacy, dressed up as a clown (big sboes, bow-tie that (it up, and all) when he viciously butchered his young victims. It proved to be an irreparable setback. can have a jolly good laugh too. We all slip on banana skins in our lives, and when we want to throw a brick-bat at someone, we should stop

ctly take refuge in a pew near the altar. Suddenly, there is a tap on my shoulder. Excuse mc," says a fierce

looking lady. "Are you a Shocked, and slightly upset, I look down at my carefully selected casual jumper and

"No," I reply, lamely. "I'm from the Independent.

"Well go and sit somewhere else," she snaps. "This is for the clowns. It's not very fair, you sitting in a clown's seat, is it? It's not very funny, is it?"

COMEDY Disgracefully Yours James Rampton has a hell of a time with Richard O'Brien

The danger with a show from hell is that cheap-shot critics are always likely to call it a show from hell. Disgracefully Yours is by means diabolical, but it is far from heavenly.

In his latest show, Richard O'Brien dons a red-lined dinner jacket, horns and a pointy tail to play Mephistopheles Smith, Lucifer's henchman sent to convince us that hell is now groovy and happening place". On a spartan stage with only a vase of flowers and backing musicians for company, he set about this by lashing us with rock numbers and enough dou-

bles entendres to keep Julian is the quality of O'Brien's Clary supplied for weeks.

He has a mean way with a one-liner and energy to burn. I got exhausted just watching him conga around the stage during "The Best Has Yet to Come From Me". Although they never got into Rocky Horror-style singalongs or bondage-kit, the audience greeted every wag of Mephistopheles' tail with delirious whoops.

It still doesn't quite feel like a cult in the making, bowever. For a start, there were far too many pinstripes in the audience. But the main drawback

songs. Despite solid backing from finger-snapping, tutuwearing singers and vast quantities of dry ice, none of the numbers has the catchiness of, say, "Timewarp" from Rocky Horror. You can't imagine that a soundtrack alhum from the show would be greatly trouhling the scorers at Gallup.

The Devil may have all the hest tunes, hut he doesn't seem to have lent too many to his mate Mephistopheles. At the Comedy Theatre, London SW1 (0171-369 1731) to 6 April



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Confessions of a Worcestershire lad

This month marks the centenary of the publication of Housman's 'A Shropshire Lad'. Here, Peter Parker re-evaluates its stoical creator

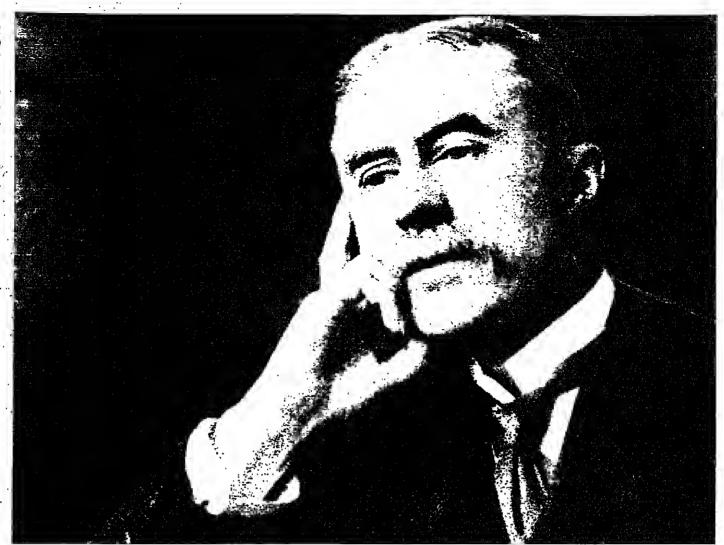
ne hundred years ago this month a small volume of poems was published by Kegan Paul in an edition of 500 copies at half-a-crown each. The author, a 37-year-old professor of Latin at University College London called Alfred Edward Housman, had been obliged to pay towards the cost of publication. A small, slow trickle of reviews was led by the Times. slow trickle of reviews was led by the Times. which, in a round, up of "Books of the Week" on 27 March, noted that: "Mr Housman has a true sense of the sweetness of country life and of its tragedles too, and his gift of melodious expression is genuine."

Other reviewers were less faint in their praise, but there is little in their pronouncements to suggest that A Shropshire Lad would become, and remain, one of the best-loved volumes of poetry in the language. By the end of the year its combined sales in Britain and the US amounted to only 381 copies. The first edition did not sell out until two years later, and only then because Housman's brother Laurence (also a poet) bought up the remaining copies.

"So Alfred has a heart after all," a member of his family remarked after reading the book. Indeed he had, and he lost it to a man called Moses Jackson, with whom he had been at Oxford and later shared rooms in London. The majority of Housman's poems most directly concerned with this one-sided love affair were published in later volumes, but A Shropshire Lad is suffused with barely repressed longing for "lads" who (like Jackson) were more interested in "lasses" than in Latinists. This submerged background to the book may have been recognised by sympathetic homosexual readers. but it would hardly commend the poems to the general public, or explain why they became part of the fabric of the twentieth century.

The growth in popularity of the book was most marked during the early years of the century: in 1905 it sold 886 copies; by 1911 the average yearly sale was 13,500 copies. Sales were undoubtedly boosted by the large number of composers who made settings from Housman's poems during this period, which had seen a renaissance in British music and a rediscovery of traditional folksong, Housman deplored these settings, but never actually prevented them; indeed, his refusal to accept payment may bave actively encouraged composers. Among the settings, either individually or as song cycles, are ones by Arthur Somervell (1904), Balfour Gardiner (1906), Ivor Gurney (1908), Ralph Vaughan Williams (1909), George Peel (1910) and George Butterworth (1911 and 1912). Later songs include those by John Ireland (1917), E.J. Moran (1920), Arnold Bax (1920) and C.W. Orr (1934). Although the poet did his best to avoid hearing any of them, several are very fine indeed and a number of recordings are still in

Few of these composers knew, nr were specifically celebrating, Shropshire: Housman's adopted county had become representative of first line of one of his hest-loved poems originally. Few of these composers knew, or were



City slicker: AE Housman wrote the entire volume while living in Hampstead

cent of the population lived in rural areas; but for many people, the word "England" still conured up a vague landscape of the sort depicted in Housman's verse, and in the poetry of the Georgians, which also flourished at this period. For many people, it still does.
In search of Housman's "far country", how-

ever, thousands of pilgrims have followed E. M. Forster, who in 1907 went on a Shropshire Lad walking tour, noting landmarks made familiar by the poems: Ludlow, Wenlock Edge, Hughley Steeple. "Severn shore" and the "high vanes" of Shrewsbury. Housman actually wrote the entire volume in Hampstead, and chose most of the place-names for their cuphonious qualities.

were our western horizon." That horizon was immortalised in his most famous poem ("Into my heart an air that kills") as the "blue remembered hills" that mark "the land of lost content". and it is phrases such as these, rather than topographical reference points, that lodge in the mind. The fact that, for instance, the church at Hughley, far from heing a "far-known sign", is buried in a valley does not in the end much matter to readers - or to tourist boards who need to entice people to "Housman Country". The poet reached a geographical compromise in death: his ashes were buried in Ludlow, but in leaf-mould imported from his childhood home

in Worcestershire. By 1914 A Shropshire Lad entered the nation's bloodstream, and Housman's vision of "lads that will die in their glory and never be old" was about to be very thoroughly fulfilled.

these verses provided models for the soldierpoets of the First World War, and we find both Rupert Brooke and C.H.Sorley delivering lectures on the poems to their schools' literary societies. In 1913 Brooke declared Housman as "the only true poet in England", while Sorley's much-anthologised "All the hills and vales along" echoes. A Shropshire Lad in its ironically jaunty defiance.

The descendants of Housman's ploughhoys-turned-soldiers populate the poetry of Wilfred Owen and Siegfried Sassoon, both of whom shared their predecessor's romantic compassion for "lovely lads" soon to he "dead and rotten". A special miniature wartime edition of the hook was produced, designed to he slipped into the hreast pocket of uniforms. where Housman fondly hoped it might one day deflect one of the bullets which tas Owen put an idealised rural England. The drift away from nally ran: "Tis time, I think, by Stourbridge Many of the poems feature doomed youths, and the countryside towards the industrial towns town...".) "I had a sentimental feeling for some of them are in uniform. "Soldiers march the hearts of lads". There is no record of this it transforms the personal and specific into and cities was such that, by 1911, under 22 per Shropshire," he explained, "because its hills ing, all to die". Discovered in the classroom. happening, although one of the war's most something universal.

famous poems. Patrick Shaw-Stewart's untitled verses beginning "I saw a man this morning / Who did not wish to die", was first scribbled by the author on the flyleaf of Housman's book. The Times printed some of the poems on a broadsheet to be distributed in the trenches and by 1918 the book itself was selling some 16.000 copies a year, despite the fact that it had doubled in price.
"My chief object in publishing my verses was

to give pleasure to a few young men here and there," Housman once said. In this he undoubtedly succeeded, and many of those young men went on to be writers, thus extending Housman's influence well beyond the First World War. "To my generation, no other English poet seemed so perfectly to express the sensibility of the male adolescent," wrote W.H. Auden, several of whose early poems are modelled on Housman's. The volume's mood of romantic melaneholy, its railing against the injustices of life, naturally appeals to the young, and it is in adolescence that poetry strikes home most forcefully, even among those who may never read poetry thereafter.

Boys of Auden's generation, who spent hours in the classroom studying Greek and Latin literature, were familiar, as Cyril Connolly put it, with "love and death and the fate of youth and beauty". Furthermore, Housman's language - although occasionally archaic - is straightforward, his rhythms strong, and all this adds up to a poetry of deceptive simplicity, appealing to the senses as much as the intellect. John Berjeman praised (and imitated) its "recitability", and Connolly's fellow-Etonian, George Orwell, claimed to have the entire volume by heart - although, like Connolly, he later grew disenchanted. Others didn't, and Connolly's brutal reassessment in the New Statesman shortly after Housman's death in 1930 caused howls of outrage. Housman continued to haunt later generations; Kingsley Amis's poem "A.E.H." is an affectionate and moving pastiche, while the work of Philip Larkin has obvious affinities of tone.

It was Larkin who observed that "Housman is the poet of unhappiness; no one else has reiterated his single message so plangently. Housman's evocation of loss - the loss of love, of youth, of life - strikes a chord with most people. While the poet's redcoats, ploughhoys and "rose-lipt maidens" have long since come to dust, the feelings that animated them remain.

"I think that to transfuse emotion - not to transmit thought but to set up in the reader's sense a vibration corresponding to what was felt by the writer - is the peculiar function of poetry," Housman said in a lecture. Even if we do not suffer from unrequired love, we all have our lands of lost content, and you don't need to know Shropshire or know about Moses Jackson to respond to this poetry. Housman's Shropshire was a landscape of the imagination. his hook a gazetteer of the heart. Although occasionally clumsy and even absurd. A Shrop-

A charge into the footnotes of history

The Great War changed warfare and the military for ever. Jan Morris feels a pang for the passing of the cavalry

n March 1914 the officers of the British Third Cavalry Brigade, sta-tioned at the Curragh in Ireland, put paid to Herbert Asquith's Irish Home Rule Bill by making it clear that they would never go into action against the militant. Unionists of Ulster. They doubtless agreed with their contmanding general, Sir Arthur Paget, that they would not take orders from "those swines of politicians", only from His Majesty the King.

This fateful insubordination was perhaps the last decisive intervention of the equestrian classes in British history - the last insolent gesture of the knights who had for so many centuries clanked and jangled their lordly way through the nation's affairs. It opens this penultimate volume of Lord Anglesey's History of the British Cavaby, which also covers the first six months of the Great War, and it gives the whole book an allegorical tinge. The horsed patricians and their retainers were entering their last decade, and never again would hussars, dragoons and lancers be able to exert such moral pressure as they did at the Curragh that spring.

Nor, for that matter, would they exert decisive military pressure. At the fulcrum of the war which was so soon to break out, the cavalry would play a smaller role than in any previous great conflict. It is symbolically as well as militarily true that the last lanceto-lance charge ever made by British cavalry, by the 9th Lancers at Moncel in September 1914, was in Anglesey's words "thoroughly ineffective" (even though the 9th were led by Lieutenant-Colonel David Campbell. who had won the Grand National on

The Sourer in 1896,...) This is the seventh volume of Lord Anglesey's magnificent history, and by the nature of things it is the palest. Once we are out of Ireland, into the early battlefields of the Great War, litthe that happens is central to great effects. The cavalry formed a minor part of the British Army in France, and the Braish themselves, in November 1914, held only 21 miles of the western front compared with 430 miles held by the French.

A History of the British Cavalry by The Marquess of Anglesey Leo Cooper, £35.00

Lord Anglesey bas stuck to his role as a chronicler specifically of the cavalry, giving us only the sketchiest outlines of general strategy. In recalling the opening months of the war - the first German advances, the retreat from Mons, the battle of the Marne, Joffre's great offensive- he is often reduced to blow-by-blow descriptions of skirmishes almost unnoticeable in a wider view of the conflict.

Not that the British cavalry was insignificant. It was undoubtedly the best in Europe at that time, having learnt much from its experiences in the Boer war - notably the skilful use of the rifle in dismounted combat. General Allenby indeed thought his Cavalry Corps "the best-trained officers and men that had ever taken the. field in European war". If they were sometimes timidly used by the higher command (though certainly no more timidly than the German cavalry). they seem to have fought their petty actions with all their legendary flair - the "View-Halloo" spirit, brought from Galway or the shires to these

more awful fields of death. The author assures us that the cavalry action fought at Nery in September 1914, together with other generally forgotten small battles, was crucial to the entire Allied resistance plates, mess ims, knives and forks. in France - even, in the long run, lo the conclusion of the war. Nevertheless the interest of his book lies far- brought from South Africa. more in its detail than in its surmises. Throughout his immense task he has outlaged with potash dye, applied with always liked to call himself an amateur; and although his volumes are scrupulously scholarly, equipped with the full apparatus of historical research, endlessly patient in their listing of units and movements, still it is DSO and bar and an MC. bis exuberant love of the subject that gives the work its unique charm.

Some of bis anecdotes, it is true. seem rather less hilarious today than Ohjects On Horseback".



'The last lance-to-lance charge of the cavalry': the charge of the 9th Lancers at Moncel in 1914

they prohably did in 1914, but the book is fascinatingly full of asides, cross-references and allusions. Here are a few:

•The 20th Hussars, having no spades, dug their trenches with broken •The Royal Dragoons were

mounted on Basuto ponies they had Light-coloured horses were cam-

whitewash hrushes,

•The Queen's Own Oxfordshire Hussats were variously known as "The Agricultural Cavalry" or "Queer

 Cavalry officers sometimes relied on maps torn out of railway timetables, and spelt place-names phonetically because they knew them only from the replies of local people.

Yeomanry were also known as "The

 Brigadier-General Richard Lucas Mullens was known as "Gohby Chops".

"That's the way to serve them bastards", said Trooper Bellingham of the so would the horses that were the 1st Life Guards, having run a surrendering German through with his proud old regiments would be sword (he wiped the blood off on his horse's mane).

means most. All over Europe the cavalry was about to die, and with it the last remnants of feudalism, as of chivalry. The grey-cloaked German Uhlans, the French Cuirassiers in

their plumed helmets, the English huntsmen with their high spirits and nicknames - all were relics of a soonto-be-lost society, and it is no coincidence that German and British *The Northumberland Hussars cavalry regiments sometimes shared the same Colonels-in-chief - kings, queens and princes from the doomed

hierarchy of Europe. Within a generation, most of the kings and queens would be gone, and ancient emblems of nobility. The trundling about in tanks, and Gobby Chops, The Noodies and the Agri-But for me it is the allegory that cultural Cavalry, even the Third Cavalry Brigade at the Curragh, would be hardly more than curious footnotes of history.

Only those swine, the politicians, would ride on regardless.

A WEEK IN BOOKS

Orget the London Book Fair. Keener joys were to be had at the Publishers Association Centenary Conference writes Richard Tyrell. This offered the sight of angst-laden publishers wondering if they should be train-ing their reps to sell CD-Roms rather than books. They all rather missed the point.

The point was the decline of the novel and this was the topic of George Steiner's keynote address. Steiner cited a newly-discovered papyrus from the fifth-century; a critical work predicting that Homer's Odyssey had no future (too long, too repetitive, all those rosy-fingered dawns). But he also bore within him a warning from his Engineering colleagues at Cambridge. They are, he said, very close to inventing a small-scale display unit - a screen that imitates a page, clearly printed. Their units could give you access to all 14 million items in the Library of Congress. You can turn any of its pages at any speed. It's easy to carry. more responsive than any book, and just a few years away.

So what hope for traditional publishing or fiction? The novel has already been written off by none other than VS Naipaul, who said in the Observer last month that it began to flag after 1895. And Gilbert Adair has written of today's novelists being "failures" in comparison to the standards of Stendhal. Steiner added his voice to these distinguished writers, but there was a quiet air of subversion at the conference. Brenda Maddox, the journalist, pointed out that the IT revolution might bring new art forms, but these would take their place alongside novels, film and painting. The elincher came from Matthew Evans of Faber. who forecast that readers would simply print out texts they wanted to read - ie put them

back on a page.

So finally we're down to the bonom line – who on earth wants to read books by computer? Only a masochist would sit staring at Sense and Sensibility on PC. The development of taste for literature presupposes the book, and once you have a taste for literature you will want to buy novels, and writers will want to write them.

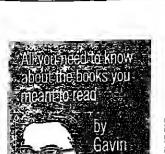
Steiner fears, of course, that the young will not develop such tastes. But this reminds me of the poet Richard Hugo, who in his last years wrote a poem giving exact instructions for his funeral in the hope that by exaggerating the

event he might lessen his fear of it.

The funeral of the novel is far less certain. The safest prediction is that readers will use the witty new technology as an aide-de-camp for novels and art galleries, not as a surrogate. And books will always have one huge advantage over expensive portable technology: nobody will mug you in the subway saying "Hand over the Dickens or else..."

•Sergeant Smelizer of the 12th Lancers was given a commission: within two years he commanded an infantry battalion and had won a

books



ANDROMACHE (1667) by Jean Racine

Plet: Pyrrhus, King of Epirus is betrothed to Hermione, daughter of Menelaus, but loves Andromache, widow of the Trojan bero Hector. Orestes, sent by the Greeks to kill. Andromache's son. is in love with Hermione. Pyrrhus blackmails Andromache: either she marries him or her son Astyania, is handed over to Orestes for execution. Under pressure Andromache agrees to the marriage, but having secured her son's safety will Fill herself. Hermione meanwhile learns of Pyrchus's plans to marry and is beside herself with tury. She tells Orestes that she will be his if he murders Pyrrhus. This he does, then returns to Hermione expecting graffinde. Instead she rebutts him and kills herself over Pyrrhus's corpse. Oresies goes mad. Andromache, now queen

Theme: Love is an all consuming amoral emotion that is both destructive and self-destructive. Love cuts across all gentler impulses and noble ideals, leaving them scarred and maimed.

of Epirus is transformed

from victim to victrix.

Style: Ractine uses 12syllable rhyming couplets. with a restricted vocabulary of 4000 words (Shakespeare uses 25,000).

Chief Strengths: There are no villains and yet each character must bear some weight for the tragic denouement. As the action accelerates, Racine maintains a universal sympathy while remaining icily impersonal.

Chief weakness: For the Francophobe, the language can seem too starchy to be expressive, and the plot too didactically tidy to be

Whal they thought of it then: The play was a brilliant success. Racine's racy drama of driven sexuality made Corneille's ponderous plays of duty and patriotism seem dated and icjune.

What we think of it now: Along with Phédre, it is one of Racine's greatest works. although British actors. trained to mouth Shakespeare, are inclined to turn the long rhetorical speeches in rant.

Responsible for: Craig Raine's 1953 which relocates the play's action to a post-Second War Europe here the Axis powers have been triumphant.

Princess of Wales in extra-marital sex shock

Tactless, malodorous and embittered, Caroline of Brunswick was not a happy royal. But, says Lucy Hughes-Hallett, she was a goodnatured one

oor Caroline of Brunswick! She is chiefly remembered for the passion with which her husband. the Prince of Wales. detested her. His words at their first meeting have justly entered the collective memory as a good joke about a hellishly bad marriage: "Harris. I am not well, proy get me a glass of brandy." (The Princess's teeth were rotting and Lord Malmesbury, who had escorted her to England. had already tell obliged to give her some embarrassingly intimate advice about the need to wash her person and change her stockings more frequently - advice to which she apparently paid too little heed).

Twenty-five years later the cruel one-liners were still coming. On being informed that his "bitterest enemy" (the speaker meant Napoleon) was dead. King George IV (as he by then was) exclaimed "Is she, by God?" The latter remark stands as evidence not only of his ludicrous implacability but also of his frivolity. His unloved wife was a march for him in political fecklessness.

Touring Europe in 1814. separated from her husband but still firmly intending to be Queen, and not only of hearts, she chose to socialise. to the Fureign Office's despair, almost exclusively with Bonapartes. She even to attend a ball, she smeared abroad, she led a decreas-

The Unruly Queen: The Life of Caroline of Brunswick by Flora Fraser Macmillan, £20

called on Napoleon's Empress Marie Louise, but the visit was not a success. The Princess of Wales yawned so hard that she and her chair toppled over hackwards. She laughed uproariously. The Empress, contemplating her upended feet, did not. It was not though, for her

failings in an amhassadorial

role that this Princess of Wales was disgraced, ostracised and eventually tried in the House of Lords. but for doing what her husband had always done with impunity, engaging in extramarital sex. Her reputation, even as a feenager, was shocking. Her luture mother-in-law Queen Charlotte heard that "when she dances" (which she was seldom allowed to dot a governess followed her through the ballroom "to prevent her making an exhibition of herself by indecent conversation with men." She had already developed a wildly dangerous penchant for playing up to her detractors' worst slanders. When, at the age of 16, she was forhidden

her face with white paste, ingly jolly life. She liked took to her bed screaming. and claimed to be in labour. boisterous party games, rude The ball was cancelled. Simjokes and staving up so late ilarly, years later, she was to as to exhaust her poor ladies. tease a new lady-in-waiting by referring to a protege, Spiteful observers remarked on her coarsening complexwho was well known to be a ion and ridiculous clothes launderess's son, as her own naked figure"), but clever hastard, and when Walter men. writers, politicians, travellers and scholars, were Scott came to call she whisked him off to the condrawn to her. George Canservatory where she "asked ning and Thomas Lawrence me slily if I was not afraid to be alone with her". By this were both among her alleged lovers. In Italy, once time her love affairs, real or her husband's animosity had driven her to leave England, imaginary, had already been the subject of an official, she lived comfortably if disthough secret, enquity. reputably with a handsome Clearly she found being stigmatised as a depraved woman as titillating as it plehian lover, having attained, as Flora Fraser was cruel. points out "perhaps the She had tried being good,

but her marriage never stood a chance. The Prince English woman enjoyed," It was her insistence on being treated as Queen came drunk to the wedding. telling anyone who would which brought about her listen that Mrs Fitzherbert public humiliation, with her was the only woman he dirty bedlinen being picked would ever love. He passed over at the bar of the House of Lords, and she herself out under the grate that turned away by flunkeys from ber husband's coronanight, and again three days later, having struck a gention. Her story might have tleman who was trying to ended seedily but happily dissuade him from visiting his old mistress. After little enough, had she only been more than a year of virtual content to go quietly. imprisonment in Carlton The parallels between her House, with her husband's

marriage and that of our latter-day Waleses are plentiful new mistress Lady Jersey as lady-in-waiting-cum-wardress. and piquant - he returning the Princess removed herself thankfully to the woman he to a house in Blackheath. had loved long before the There, and subsequently in marriage, she entertaining a Kensington Palace and mélange of good-looking as now, efforts to salvage the officers and celebrities in crown's prestige came close

ingly respectable, increasgreatest liberty which any

Kensington Palace, while an to destroying it altogether. ageing monarch begged Only Robert Peel seems to them both to behave. Their use of publicity was as knowing as anything we have seen recently, and as much deplored by the older generation. For years King George III would refer to his eldest son only as "The person who published my letters." The Princess put her

case in a memoir, government agents spent the equivalent of £500,000, buying up copies to be hurnt. More importantly, then have had the intelligence to grasp that "to establish a principle of dethronement for personal misconduct was to open the door to republicanism. Flora Fraser has a nice dry

wit and a finely balanced view of her subject's rather splendid silliness which makes this book, at times, very funny. Caroline was not a clever woman, nor boldly adventurous in the style of her one-time attendant Ladv Hester Stanhope. When she

gush ignorantly - "the dear Arahians and Turks are quite darlings" - and to buy gaudy frocks. But her good nature was so great, even her husband had to acknowledge it. She seems now more attractive than most of those who condemned her, "Nothing can appear more revolting to propriety than the Princess of Wales using another person's plate". wrote one visitor, noticing her lover's (spurious) crest

on the silver dishes. Nothing the princess ever did seems, in retrospect, as revolting as went East it was only to such petty snobbery.

'I might be anything. If a horse loved me, I might be that'

Meoldramatic, promiscuous and unaccountably homophobic, Djuna Barnes was always blessed with the gift of reinventing herself, says Philip Hoare

If the many eccentries that populate this academic study of a fabulous menagerie, my favourite is the Baroness Elsa von Freytag Loringhoven. whom Djuna Barnes - her prinicipal patron - memorably described decanting from a Manhattan cab in 1916 wearing seventy black and purple anklets, a (cancelled) foreign postage stamp on her cheek in lieu of a beauty spot, and a purple wig entwined with strands from a

mooring cable. Herring's book is full of such glimpses of bohemian life in New York, Paris and London, To footnote aficionados, Djuna Barnes's is an evocative name and image: her lips as pursed as those of her con-temporary fellow female rehel. Nancy Cunard; both women of a hard new century who had in turn hardened themselves against the world. Barnes's background is a chronicle in itself, full of bizarrely-named relatives; Saxon, Buanand Zadel, her grandmother, a literary and sexual adventurer who had known Speranza Wilde in London. She and Djinna shared a bed for 15 years, where Zadel made her granddaughter play with her breasts. Djuna's polygamous father. Wald is said either to have raped be that." his daughter as a young girl, or to bave introduced her at the age of 16 to a mid-dle-aged family friend who took it upon himself to do the deed. Such experiences left Djuna with a permanently wounded

The Life and Work of Djuna Barnes by Philip Herring Viking, £20

of which appears to have been spent in a depressive state: "Melancholia, melancholia, it rides me like a bucking mare". Yet it is the sort of state which created great art - and Herring maintains that Nightwood, a Gothic narrative of sexual obsession, is a landmark of modernism.

Diuna's early career progressed from decadent short stories and Beardslevan art (lamentably this book lacks any reproductions), through during journalism - undergoing forcefeeding in order to write about the Suffragettes - to star writer status for McCall's, who sent her

affair, she said she loved Thelma because she looked like her grandmother. Wood had already had affairs with Efina St Vinlook, and a cynical outlook on life, much



Ojuna Barnes: sapphic rapture

to Paris, the city which would fix her in literary history. She fell easily into the Lost Generation and a long succession of lovers, male and female. When asked if she were a lesbian, she replied. "I might be anything, if a horse loved me. I might be anything, if a norse loved me. I might be that."

The great female love of her life was Thelma Wood, with whom Djuna smoked dope and conducted a nine-year.

Almanack, a satire which Barney loved: Ryder was another satire, this time on her own family, a subject ripe for revenge in Djuna's smarting heart.

Revenge was a characteristic of her biographical content in Barnes's works is writing, a sort of post-trauma literary therapy. When Thelma and Djuna's "marriage" broke up bitterly, Barnes portraved her savagely in Nightwood. The hook was written partly in Tangiers – where Djuna and her latest lover, Charles Henri Ford. had been invited by Paul Bowles and where she caused comment with her blue, green and purple make-up - and partly at Peggy Guggenheim's rented Devonshire mansion, Hayford Hall, renamed Hangover Hall by its self-

Afraid of Dartmoor, Djuna stayed in her rococo bedroom and wove her nar-rative of the freaks of Nightwood. Herrative of the freaks of Nightwood. Her-ring's assessment of the hook is incisive: "It argues that regardless of sexual ori-entation, human nature itself is per-verted and grotesque, which is why people seek to remake themselves. We are all God's jokes." TS Eliot published it at Faber in 1936, subsequently writ-ing a 1 500 word preface for its US pubing a 1,500 word preface for its US publication. He liked its author so much that he kept her photograph on his wall, alongside those of WB Yeats and Grou-cho Marx.

Herring has taken on the mantle of Djuna's latter-day champion with evident relish and empathy. He points up the value of her work, with its bleak Nietschzean views and acidic, fantastic prose which mutated from decadence through to modernism. The high auto-

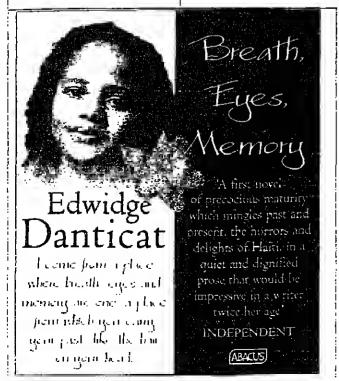
both a boon and a blessing for a biographer: switching from hiographical fact to Barnesean fiction, Herring's lit critapproach can get in the way of the story. It also makes for occasional repetition, and can seem disjointed; a series of thematic essays rather than a cohesive whole. Yet these are minor caveats. Always entertaining, Herring revels in these spatting personalities of interwar Bohemia as they fight their internecine

battles for superiority.

Eliot also published Djuna's verse play. The Antiphon in 1957. Translated into Swedish by her new friend, Dag Hammarskjold, and premiered in Stockholm, it was a further literary revenge on her family, who had violated her person once again by sending her to a rengtoonce again by sending her to a sanatorium to treat her alcoholism.

But by that time Djuna had left Europe for good, and the rest of her life was spent holed up in Greenwich Village, where she. became unaccountably homophobic, hating her reputation as a lesbian writer. An attempt to write the fabulous Elsa's hiography came to nothing - Djuna complained that the book kept trying to become poetry - and she published little in her later years.

Having made two attempts at suicide, she died in 1982, largely unknown and uncelebrated. Herring's hook will do much to correct that sad lapse of taste on



Suburbia's lonely hearts club band

Emma Hagestadt enjoys a spooky tale of mating rituals and dating nightmares

ouise Doughty writes about people who don't usually get written about. Young women who commute in from London's less salubrious suburbs (Catford, Burnt Oak, East Burnet) who understand the inner workings of the office PC, and buy their earemployed information consultants who surf the Internet and are

always home in time for Brookside. First there's Bet. She's 27, prone to cystitis and "as promiscuous as Hell". Having lost her boyfriend, Peter (who suffered a head-on colweeks after their first date), she's learning to be single again. Iris is a small child (possibly Peter's). thing Londoners like no one else them by the age of six."

Dance with Me by Lousie Doughty Simon and Schuster, £9.99

rings at Next. Her heroines are self- a paler version of Bet. She spends her weekends not in strange men's beds but moping in local cafes, worrying that she should be doing the hoovering instead. Her ex-

boyfriend (also Peter) isn't dead. just unfaithful. Just as you're wising up to

lision on the Watford by-pass three Doughty's game, a third heroine on to monitor the lonesome hearts pops up. Another Iris. This Iris has and sexual drives of twentysome-

and lives alone in pebble-dashed splendour in Burnt Oak.

Doughty's intention gradually become clearer. Bet and Iris are ghostly imitations of each other, and before their story is over some supernatural antics are staged in spooky basements and badly-lit attics. But through all the smokescreens Doughty throws up, one thing is apparent: all the Irises and

Bet are heading for a breakdown. female novelist. Doughty gives the old chestnut a new spin, and goes

around. Every bit as skilled as her contemporaries. Alain de Borion and Julie Myerson, her writing has a pessimistic edge which makes her books all the funnier.

Dance with Mc is a painfully accurate record of mating rituals and dating nightmares. Iris's evenings spent playing the part of the "new" girl-friend with Peter's best friends, Alex and Sophie (a horribly smug couple "as plump and blonde" as While it can't be said that disso-ciation is an original theme for a who after a meal at the Taj Mahal displays himself (one part in particular) with "the kind of self-regard which women have knocked out of

But it's when it comes to loneliness thar Doughty is at her best. There's a touching moment in the Citie of Yorke pub, when Iris and her old friend George finally acknowledge that that no spark will ever fly between them. A poignant scene, particularly given the book's conclusion that being alone is enough to drive you mad.

Less ambitious than Doughty's previous novel, Crazy Paving, Dance with Me is not without its eccentricities. For all its revelling in the world of Sainsbury's aisles and Holborn wine bars it is, after all, a novel about delusions - particularly the kind women have

th tl



Colin Greenland on a manly tale of heartbreak

eaders put off by abstract, technical-sounding titles need have no fear. Particle Theory is a proper novel, more or less, and not at all theoretical, though it hums with social and psychological commentary. Alternately, it tells two separate stories - one an old-fashioned thrilling adventure, the other a bitter modern farce - about two very dif-

As a boy on Taschla Collective Farm, lvan Khuchevsky knows strange luminous moments when he seems able to perform supernatural feats. Some, like hreaking solid furniture, leave concrete evidence. Others, like creating a kindly nurse or a city called Ruibinsk in the middle of the cornfields, are, to say the least, more equivocal. In any event, Ivan knows he has a secret destiny. There is a legacy of buried icons waiting for him, and meanwhile a training of iron discipline at the brutal hands of the overseer Boris. Unfortunately Boris, who is to tell all on Ivan's 18th birthday. dies two months too soon, in a skating accident for which Ivan believes himself magi-

To find his destiny, Ivan runs away, not once, hut again and again, his whole life long. From Taschla he escapes to Ruibinsk, from Ruibinsk to the army, from the army to the West, where he is welcomed into Cambridge Reuters sends him to Paris; he resigns to run a second-hand bookshop in London. He sets up old people's homes, then adver-tising agencies. He leads safaris of elderly Americans into the Serengeti, where arm-wrestling skills learned from Boris accidentally win him the chiefdom of a minor tribe. He immediately abdicates to join a think-tank in Chicago. Somewhere along his tortuous way, it becomes apparent that what he is really doing is looking for Sofka, the girl who, while hiding him from the Rinbinsk police, relieved him of his virginity.

another orphan, his story is in strict contrast. Overwhelmed by a doting grandmother and her Polish housekeeper, a lonely refugee called Elfreda, Michael never does anything except become obese. There is one magnificent porParticle Theory by Jonathan Gathorne-Hardy Hutchinson, £14.99

out or for hereditary reasons. He somewhat resembled a new-laid egg or much sucked bonbon. His habit of running his nails down his plump left cheek continued, and now he often ate the little rolled-up fragments from under them. He liked the salty taste."

Anal-composive to the letter, Michael spends his life collecting newspapers, paperbacks, hus tickets, the cardboard middles of toilet rolls. Floor by floor, he forces his granny to evict her tenants from a house in Drawton Gardens, and uses the increased space to dens, and uses the increased space to accommodate things he finds in skips; bits of string and bottle tops; towel rails and broken hotplates. He collects his own hair, his own excretions. He catalogues his collections and records the cataloguing in his journals. Then he catalogues the journals.

This is an authentically masculine

book. Ivan, the arm-wrestler, the good soldier, the dynamic executive, never runs away from anything in defeat, but always at the peak of success. Michael represents the gloomier side of the gender: self-centred, helplessly dependent, manipulative. Each man is obsessed with the woman whose fortune it will be to sanctify his life, should he ever find her. While Ivan dreams of Sofka, Michael yearns for Elfreda, and searches for her with his own mad methodicality, posting two thousand Roneoed copies of a love letter into the letterboxes of Cambridge. There is never any hope, really, for Ivan or Michael, or for us the readers. What turns out to connect the middle-class British boy and Though Michael Wordingham is the Russian peasant is that both have given their hearts already, irredeemably.

Jonathan Gathorne-Hardy is the author of The Rise and Fall of the British Nanny, and he has put at least eight examples of the genus in these pages. When at the end Ivan and Michael distrait: "Michael at nearly 20 was tall, oval appear from view, we know perfectly in shape and already losing his bair in well where they have gone: back to the nursery, like all good boys.



Death's draw: like a Ku Klux Klan roadie, this hooded Sicilian waits to carry a drum in one of the bewildering rolligious rituals that, along with marriages processions, field-work and children's games, stud the pages of The island of the Sicilians (Devi Lewis), a celebration of the work of Giuseppe Leone, the great Italian lensman. "The photographic," writes Diego Mormorio in a wildly pretentions introduction to this unsentimental portfolio, "always pictures something that has just emerged from the past and is sailing recklesly towards the reefs of the future..."

appetites

Victoria Coren, confronted by a plate of girlie pornography, takes a cautious nibble

Eat Me by Linda Jaivin Chatto & Windus, £9.99

A ccording to a recent feature in the News Of The World – hrilliantly titled "Ooh, You Are Author!" – there are "an estimated five million British girls who love a dirty novel." Women's porn, it seems, is the hot new genre. Eat Me is not only girl-for-girl action, it's also Australian, feminist and vaguely (God help us) post-modern. us) post-modern.

This generous helping of sauce for the goose is peppered with strident female academics and vegetarians, who meet in Sydney cafés to discuss their fantasies. Though explicitly sexual, most of these focus in some way on food - hence the title. Think women and danger, naughtiness and illicit thrills and you end up, unerringly, at the fridge door.

The novel opens with an episode involving a woman and an array of fruit: this is the Marianne Faithfull Mars Bar trick for a health-conscious generation. It sounds rather uncomfortable, if you ask me - particularly the kiwi fruit - but at least she stops short of making out with a pineapple.

The imagery throughout is all giant leeks and plum puddings; in one section, Jake "peeled off Julia's clothes as if they were the leaves of a steamed artichoke... his gaze rested on the Mediterranean caramel of her belly hefore proceeding down... to the folds of moist gravlax. A pretty unappetising mixture, if you think

Even when the snacks are left behind, the sex scenes are too metaphorical for simple gratification. Getting it together with a Chinese circus performer, one girl confesses: "I kneel down and swallow the sword of the sword-swallower, charm the snake of the snake-charmer." Lucky for him he wasn't a ringmaster. Another obstacle to erotic success is that the novel is plagued by common sense and humour. Slinking seductively towards a lover, "the smooth soles of [Helen's] new shoes slid on the linoleum and she came in for a rather clumsy landing on his lap. 'Oof,' he cried, despite himself."

Erotica, more than any other genre, demands the suspension of disbelief and here it is undercut by earthy reason. Like most things that come out of Australia this is funny and likeable, but deeply unerotic. Bathos and realism are the encmies of porn, that realm where fantasy swells unimpeded. There is no room for, if you will forgive me, the deflating prick.

But Jaivin's main problem is that successful porn is inherently nasty, and her attempt to reclaim it for a right-on readership is admirable but doomed. Eat Me's women are very sexually empowered always on 10p. talking of "engulfment" rather than penetration - no thrills for the unreconstructed girl here. Even the food is all trendy international deli-produce: "Camilla poked the tip of her isumos into her latte and fellated the long pastry". Not

so sexy with a saveloy and weak tea, I guess. Condoms interrupt the flow (yes.yes). peeping Toms pause to point out that "the womeo I watch are all perfectly safe", and Jaivin gets into terrible ideological confusion with an episode in which a woman hires a hlack slave but takes pains to stress that "we're enacting a fantasy, with his consent", thus pleasing no-one. As a literary exercise, it's all very interesting hut the fact is, you can't be right-on when you jerk off.

Discovering daddy in the deep freeze

Miranda Seymour finds vivid characters and special pleading in a novel of gay parenthood

eaders of Michael Arditti's moving Pagan and her Parents and powerful first novel, The Celi bate, will not be misled by the title of his second into supposing that he has written about a conventional family. What he has done, as he did in that book, is to make a passionate case for the homosexual's right to love and to

The narrator, Leo Young, describes the complicated past relationship he has had with two people, Candida Mulliner and Robin Standish. Robin is handsome, Catholic and confused about his sexuality: Candida, with her admiring undergraduate friend Leo in tow, gravitates towards him out of a longing for the kind of aristocratic. ultra-English background to which the shy son of a woman who runs a boarding-house and who believes in sticking to your own class, is able to view the Standishes with a critical eye and see the ugliness of their small stately home. Candida is intoxicated,

by Michael Arditti Sinclaîr-Stevenson, £12.99

even when Lady Standish, drawling through lipstick-stained teeth, talks of a drunken husband who raped her, beat her and was finally "dragged from the mud of a drained lake, foetid

in body as in spirit." Influenced by Rohin, Candida becomes a rehel; when he hecomes engaged to a nice county girl, she turns up at the party to warn the fiancée that she may he in for a nasty she feels she has a right to belong. Leo, attack of herpes. Leo, as always, looks on and is presciently warned by Lady Standish against the danger of loving anybody too much, unless he wants a broken heart.

Pagan's unhappy story begins after the slow and unflinchingly described

death of Candida. The child's father has never been named, although Candida's promiscuity suggests many possibilities. On her deathbed, Candida entrusts her small daughter to Leo, the man who has helped to hring her up and whom she identifies as a father-figure. The choice seems ideal: Pagan is a devoted six-year-old; Leo is a lonely but successful television chat-show host with a bouse in Kensington, a cook and infi-

nite patience for Pagan's caprices. The problems, and a sour form of comedy, begin when Candida's adoptive parents, never having seen their grand-daughter, decide that she cannot be entrusted to the care of a homosexual. They take Leo to court; the newspapers dig out every unlikely and plausible detail they can find to tarnish his reputation; his career is ruined and Pagan is carried off by the ghastly grandparents to he transformed into Patience and taught the art of self-sacrifice. (One nice and

refusal to let her eat one of the jam tarts she is permitted to help bake for members of the St John's Amhulance Brigade.) Fortunately, the story does not end there.

manipulation of the way a narrative unfolds. In The Celibate, he played with different voices to heighten the suspense; here, his decision to have Leo address himself to the dead Candida allows the reader to question Leo's fascination with a character we are never allowed to meet. A whimsical hlend of Zuleika Dohson, Sally Bowles and Becky Sharp, fearless and dreadful in her ability to enjoy herself at the expense of other people. Candida is a more memorable creation

than poor, decent Leo. He is almost too good to be true he has to he for Arditti's purposes. while Candida is mad and bad enough to send Cruella De Vil running for cover. 1 was unsure whether 1 was telling detail is the grandmother's meant to smile as unkindly as I did

when, having dreamed that she is the secret daughter of an Earl and a beautiful housemaid, she learns that her mother was a telephonist and her ot end there. father a meat packer. "You mean in Arditti is unusually deft in his an ahattoir." Leo asks, trying to make things seem a little more exciting. "No." she answers, in his recollection, "there's not even any blood in it. He worked in a deep freeze."

Suspense, as with The Celibate, is maintained until the end, when we are deluged with as many startling disclosures as in the last pages of a good Wilkie Collins. Few, it must be said, seem wholly plausible. I don't wish to give them away, but it troubled me that Mr Arditti's determination to make Leo a stain-free hero and ideal fatherfigure has resulted in some over-zealous blackening of other characters. He makes sure that the case for homosexual parenthood is not only validated but triumphant. I am not convinced that he has chosen the best fictional way to win the argument.



Reviewed by Emma Hagestadt and Christopher Hirst



NATURAL HISTOR OF THE SENSES Diane Ackerman

A Natural History of the Senses by Diane Ackerman (Phoenix, £7.99) A big bestseller in the States; Diane Ackerman (poet, essayist and naturalist) celebrates the five senses and the "sense-luscious" world we live in with the passion of a Roman voluptuary. It's the kind of book that you can dip into at random and experience a quick sensory frisson each time: delights include Helen Keller on the "elemental" whiff of young men, the importance of the crunch factor in crisps, and why perfumes smell strongest just before a storm. Ackerman's own personal nirvana is wallowing in a vanilla-scented bath while sipping a vanilla cream seltzer.



(Papermac, £10) In this rich and fascinating work, Malcolm performs a prodigious feat in untangling arcane detail and dehunking myth. The Serbs and the Croats were Slave tribes who arrived in the seventh century, but the basis of their animosity is economic (Christian peasants resenting Muslim landlords) rather than ethnic. In fact, for much of the period since 1878, the two peoples lived peacefully together. In a new epilogue taking the story to the end of 1995, Malcolm says that ethnic separation will ensure a "much more troubled future".

Bosnia: A Short History by Noel Malcolm



The Brendan Voyage by Tim Sevrin (Abacus, £8.99) The idea that the Irish made it to America 400 years before the Vikings is a thrilling one. Putting his faith in the Navigatio, a medieval text which describes St Brendan's voyage to the Promised Land, explorer Tim Sevrin and four friends reconstructed the saint's tiny ox-hide boat and put the myth to the test. Sevrin's account of their terrifying journey across North Atlantic is unemotionally told, but the power of his story is undeniable. The book includes the text of the Navigatio and extensive design notes on the boat's construction. A real hoy's own adventure.

Audiobooks



You Magazine Short Story Collection read by Janet McTeer and Bill Nighy

Snow Falling on Cedars read by Peter Marinker

Thirteen pointed and witty tales by such top novelists as Muriel Spark Lisa St Aubin, Angela Huth, Ben Okri, Alan Sillitoe and Victoria Glendinning make up the You Magazine Short Story Collection (CSA Telltapes, £7.99). The outstanding bloom in a classy bunch is Jane Gardam's "the Boy Who

Turned into a Bike". This unabridged reading of David Guterson's Snow Falling on Cedars (Sterling, 15 hours, £17.99, mail order only from Freephone 0800

compelling as the murder of a Japanese fisherman proves to raise extraordinary moral issues for the little Puget Sound community. Peier Marinker copes

136919) has a slow build-

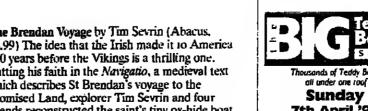
up, hut gets more and more

effortlessly with American. Japanese and Scandinavian acceniss, and he has a suppressed excitement in his voice which keeps the listener closely engaged with the story

Christina Hardyment,



The Trouble with Science by Robin Dunbar (Faber, £7.99) This had-tempered but stimulating polemic inists that science and empirical observation are basic to human life: we ignore them at our peril. Dunhar offers plenty of evidence, from the rescue of Apollo 13 to the failure of Norse colonies in Greenland. But the case is overstated. His assertion that the reaction against science began with 19th-century Romantics is dubious. Shelley, for one, adored it. Science has gained ground ever since this hook appeared last year: there is no mention of the hugely inspiring Hubble photos.



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Desert Depths well, who can be both tinny and serious, and Depilis

Bod. What on earth is the Church of England coming fo? I think this book should be benned before it does the mage of religion some red damage."

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Is it really necessary to destroy this garden?

There are plans to build eight executive-style homes in the perfectly preserved grounds of Downe Hall in Dorset. Anna Pavord is appalled

always in wretchedly short supply but if there is one cruising in the vicinity of Bridport. Dorsei, would be please go apost-haste to Downe Hall, an 18th-century mansion sitting on the side of Coneygar Hill, and make an offer for the place. Its owner wants to get rid of it, although it has never appeared in the pages of Country Life or indeed anywhere else on the open

Now this is not some troublesome wreck surrounded by an industrial estate. It is an elegant house, not impossibly large, and sits in the middle of gardens and woodlands so extensive you can scarcely believe that within a couple of hundred yards is Bridport's main street, another treat of 18th-cen-

Even more surprising. Downe Hall with its 14 acres of garden and surrounding acres of pasture and woodland has staggered through the infilling mania of the last 50 years to survive virtually intact in its design and layout since William Downe first moved here to take the sea air in 1789. The perimeter walk, a great feature of villa gardens of the period, is still protected with Portugal lauret, box and vew. There are some magnificent trees, including two enormous plane trees, rare in these parts. Some of the beech and lime date from the time the grounds were laid out in the late 18th century.

From the terrace along the south front of the house, you still get what a sales notice of 1837 described as a "bold and extensive view of the vast occan", framed between folding cliffs. The terrace itself is the work of Edward Prior, an Arts and Crafts architect and pupil of Norman Shaw. It has great period charm, with wisteria coiling around the retaining walls and wide. semicircular flights of steps connecting

the different paved levels. Rooks still clatter about in the trees here and a pungent whiff of badger hangs in the air. Against all the odds. this house and its setting exist in a serenc, untouched bubble. But at the end of this month, barring some "new material consideration", West Dorset at a profit? It is not too late once again

nights in shining armour are to allow a local firm, C G Fry and Son to huild eight executive-style homes in converting the house itself into five flats. Eddie Fry, dubbed "the Prince's hurv, the Prince of Wales' new-huild project on the outskirts of Dorchester, Dorset's county town) is acting as agent for Downe Hall's owner, Mrs Morse-Letheren. He has persuaded local planners that this is the way to ensure a future for the house, listed

Mr Fry's special relationship with the local planning authorities, made clear when I talked to Des Derrien, Director of Planning and Environmental Services at the West Dorset District Council, was built up in the wake of his successful development in the Dorset illage of Abbotsbury. If development has to take place, the Council feels he is likely to make a better job of it than anyone else in the locality.

Does development have to take place? This is one of the questions that has been asked from the beginning by Bridport resident Catherine Searle. who has fought harder than anyone to find ways of preserving the entity of Downe Hall. Could not the council delay giving planning permission until the property had at least been tested on the open market? Mr Derrien voiced fears about "unscrupulous developers" getting their hands on the place, but there are laws to prevent unsuitable development. His department can enforce them.

Could not the council seek an independent assessment of the economics of the site? "Enabling development" is sometimes granted to generate the finance necessary for a charitable trust to preserve a listed building, but as Anthony Jaggard, chairman of the Dorset Natural History and Archaeological Society has pointed out, this is not such a case. It is, as he said, "a speculative investment" not unnaturally geared to maximise the greatest possible return. But is it strictly necessary to build as many as eight houses to provide the funds to convert the house into five flats, which can themselves be sold District Council will vote on whether—to ask the question: is a housing devel-



opment on the scale envisaged at immediately obvious that the greatest, broken - but it is a realistic one, if not Downe Hall the best possible way of ensuring its future?

The Georgian Group thinks not. The Victorian Society thinks not. The Garden History Society most emphatically thinks not. David Lambert, case officer for the Society says Downe Hall is "the saddest case" that has come his way over the past year. "The structure is so little changed from the time it was laid out", he explained. "The perimeter belt is mature and unbreached by modern development. The late 18thcentury trees in the park give it a very special character. The perimeter walk is infact and the house itself amazingly unspoilt by 20th-century additions." When you look at the plans, it is

harm to the setting is caused by the four houses proposed for the foreground of Downe Hall, two on either side of the presently unbroken sweep of grass and trees. If these could be done away with, then the house and garden would be very much less jeopardised than they would be under the present plans. There is a pretty fodge house which bas been empty for the last 17 years and a stable yard built by Prior that could be converted instead, if the need for housing in Bridport is thought to be so great (the local paper, the Bridgort News advertises a selection of 4S houses already for sale in the

quite as financially rewarding for the property's owner and agent.

At the meeting, now very soon, that finally seals Downe Hall's fate, members of West Dorset District Council's planning committee may like to remind themselves that it was they who first identified the special importance of Downe Hall, whose wooded grounds lick like a tongue down into the centre of Bridport. In this town, which already bas special planning status as a conservation area in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, they decided that the Downe Hall site merited another girdle of protection as land of town). This is a compromise - the local landscape importance. Under Downe Hall bubble would still be Policy L4 of the local structure plan.

this stipulates that "development proposals which would harm specific features and qualities of local importance will not be permitted."

Do the 40 trees that must be felled to accommodate eight houses count as : specific features? Does it matter that a double garage has been positioned astride the presently unbroken perimeter walk? Or that the massive yew hedge and topiary to the northwest of the house will be buried under another garage block? In short, have we learnt nothing from the mistakes of the last 50 years? Time is running out for Downe Hall, but with strength and vision on the part of the planning authorities, it could still emerge as a building saved without a garden lost.

How to get ahead with cherry blossom

Anna McKane offers a guide to spring flowers

first in the street with the one. Privites subhinella through the winter. grasscutting and first with the harbecue will need to in November and continues choose carefully from hun- on and off until March. dreds of flowering cherries to be first with the blossom. To

Antumualis comes into flower

This little tree has fine. be certain to beat the crowd. buds. It will produce as many. As a compensation for smaller ruary, is probably the earliest.

But trees brave enough to flower in the cold do not protwiggy branches covered in cherries such as the Kanzan. burst around the end of Feb-

Cardeners who like to be the winter flowering oberry is as three flowering spurts blooms, the early flowerers have a longer season.

Provins incisa is in flower in some areas now. The whiteduce the huge show we expect flowered P incisa praecax. from blousey double Japanese which flowers in a month-long

with a big show. It bas the advantage of being small, almost shrublike, though given time it will become a small tree.

Next to flower are the ornamental almonds, forms of Prunus dulcis, whose flowers appear all along the hranches, making them look like a Japanese painting. The most common are single, with deep pink stamens, giving the flowers a darker eye. Prunus Kursar flowers at the same time, with double deep pink blos-

Next to flower are ornamental peaches, types of Prunus persica, which are like almonds in style although the flowers are generally smaller.

By late March many of the cherries will be getting into their stride, starting with the magnificent Prunus Accolade, with its large, rich pink flowers. These generally appear with the main show of daffodils. Prunus Pandora is another lovely one, with powder pink flowers.

flowerer, the next consideration is a hackground for the hlossom. With later flowering trees this may not be a problem, as by late April other trees will be coming into leaf. The best background for blossom is a blue sky, so it is worth trying to site the tree where it will be seen from below, from a path or ground floor window. The least effective background is one of bare twigs on other trees, as the blossom is lost in a muddle of branches. A stuccoed house wall makes a better hackdrop, or evergreen trees or, perhaps the ideal, the middle of a lawn.

at Kew, and at the Hillier Arboretum, near Romsey, Hampshire. But one of the best is at Telford, Shropshire, where a Japanese-owned firm, Maxell, started a Prunus collection by giving the town 1,000 flowering cherries Chris Jones, who looks after the collection, says the best display will be in mid-April.

WEEKEND WORK

signs of breaking into growth Established hybrid tea roses can still be pruned, if you haven't already. The quick, modern way is to sbear them over with a hedge cutter. The old way is to proceed in careful stages. Cut back any wood that is the cut just above a plump, healtby bud. Take nut any shoots growing in towards the centre of the bush. Shorten the strongest remaining branches by

age with the spindly growths, taking them hack

It bas been snowing bere to about two buds from the annuals such as sweet peas, again, and sensibly few of base. Standard roses need tobacco flowers and petunias the roses are yet showing gentler treatment. Remove to set out later in the season. all dead and diseased wood, I have just sown seed of a then cut back all the remaining growth by about a third.

have hibernated through the stems and then settle them propagator will speed up the sprouting. When new perature of around 50F.

Double Pleat (Thompson & Tuberous begonias that Morgan £1.89) with frilly double flowers of purple and winter need prodding into white. Ideally seed should be action now. Tip them from sown fresh in late summer, their pots, clean off old but this does not suit seed companies. Germination is dead or diseased, making into a tray of moist compost better if you put the seed, to sprout again, concave sown in a pot of compost and side uppermost. A heated covered with clingfilm, into the fridge for a couple of weeks, before bringing it out leaves bave appeared, plant in the warm. If the seed the tubers in separate pots sprouts while it is still in the about balf, but be more sav- and grow them on at a tem- fridge, bring the pot out and let the seedlings grow on in Continue to sow seeds of a warmer place.

The part of the part of the

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a te our home for

perennial aquilegia called

CUTTINGS

always look forward to Jim and Jenny Archibald's seed lists, as much for Jim's news items as for anything else. Fortunately he has never learnt to minee his words. The most recent list contains 26 pages of plant species from North America. have no intention of suggesting you can save the world in your backyard, a great num-

being preserved and propagated internationally by a few thousand specialist gardeners, many of them in North

America. "Maintaining these in cultivation is not at all the same as allowing them to survive Also this item: "While we naturally along with their entire habitat but often these species have already lost much of their habitat or they

ber of rare plants species are were extremely local plants in the first place.

In recent years horticulture has sometimes been denigrated. A legislative growth-industry fuelled by bureaucrats and self-serving obstruct the free movement of cultivated material internationally between garden-

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dissemination of such material and reassure gardeners that their knowledge, traditional skills and understanding of plant life will be of greater importance in the future than cosmetic legislation."

Archibald's seed list, send a stamped, addressed envelope to: Bryn Collen, Ffostrasol. Llandysul. Dyfed

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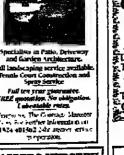
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property country houses

More than a lick of paint and a new loo

Amanda Seidl on folk who do up country houses

country houses should be soaring. But not many people can afford to buy, let alone maintain, houses the size of Pemberley or Rosings Park in Pride and Prejudice. Enter the developers who are making it possible for those who don't have a fortune to enjoy the style and splendour of a great house - provided they are willing to share it.

You couldn't get more stylish than the spectacular 17th-century Burley on the Hill near Oakham in Rutland. With sweeping views of Rutland Water and 400 acres of parkland, Burley is one of the finest country bouses in England, but like so many of its peers, it had fallen into discrepair. Briefly the home of Copriet to con repair. Briefly the home of Cypriot tycoon Asil Nadir, Burley was bought three years ago by the acknowledged doyen of country house restoration, Kit Martin, who has

restored and developed it.

Despite the isolated location and prices of between £295,000 and £495,000 for the main house apartments, all 22 units bave been sold even though work is not yet complete. Apart from the house's stunning situation, the popularity of the devel-opment is due to Martin's sympathetic conversion, which created elegant and spacious houses in the main wings of the mansion and cottages with gardens in the service buildings. He even returned deer to the deer park.

"It is a tremendous privilege to live in a house like this," says Tony Attwood, who hought Church Wing last year. "Instead principal rooms, designed by Robert of paying for a large garden and stables we don't use, we have put all our money and the living rooms for the main apartinto this unique house and have the use of a 400-acre estate as our back garden.". dows illuminating the carefully restored

s Jane Austin fever continues to sweep the nation, it is perhaps predictable that sales of Georgian project and he is already working on his fourth Scottish conversion - the 150-acre Formakin estate near Glasgow, designed by Robert Lorimer in the 1900s hut never completed. Prices start at £125,000 for the two-bedroom Byre House.

Converting country mansions is increasing due to the number of suitable premises coming on the market. Many great bouses were converted to institutional use during and after the Second World War, and during the Eighties, many more were turned into offices or training centres. But the recession has reduced demand for both offices and training establishments, while the rationalisation of the Health Service has made many isolated hospitals redundant, At the same time, the public's appetite

for gracious living has been assisted by a general dissatisfaction with the standard and uniformity of new houses. "In the late Eighties, I noticed that while nobody seemed to have any money for new bouses, there was always plenty of demand for historic properties," says Andrew Murphy of Legion Homes. Mr Murphy's observation led him to buy Wormleybury in Hertfordshire, a Grade 1-listed Georgian manor house that could have been the model for Mr Bingley's Netherfield Hall in Pride & Prejudice.

Set in 40 acres of parkland complete with lake, ancient trees and yew walk, Wormleybury provides the space and views lost long ago to most properties in the crowded M25 commuter belt. The Adam, form the communal entrance hall ment. Light floods through the sash win-During the recession, Mr Martin was stucco designs in the Eating Room which



Wormleybury in Hertfordshire, recently restored and converted in nine apartments

comes fully decorated - including origi- little on the third ascent, admits Murphy. nal paintings by Angelica Kauffmann.

Incorporating the conveniences of modern living into historic houses is not easy, and compromises have to be made. Mr Murphy has tried to keep the ground and first-floor living rooms intact while sacrificing the lower and upper floors for bedrooms with en suite bathrooms. The apartments are duplex, which has meant fitting in extra staircases and lobbies, something frowned upon by the Georgian Group.

It is important to work with the grain of the house," says Neil Burton of the Georgian Group, which advises the Government and councils on all aspects relating to Georgian buildings. But because most great houses have at least four storeys, vertical cooversion creates apartments with a daunting number of stairs.

The stairs at Wormleybury have not deterred many prospective buyers. although one octogenarian was puffing a

English Heritage and local planners will allow, and as long as the new houses do not intrude on the setting of the great All but three of the apartments are sold or under offer to a mix of buyers - from house, there are benefits, too; maintea young couple expecting their first child nance costs can be spread more thinly. to an expatriate banker.

The funny thing is that many of the people attracted to country-house conversions are the sort of people who, two centuries ago, would have lived in a big house," says Mr Burton.

While Mr Murphy has spent more than £1 million restoring the house and converting the interior into nine apartments, the previous owners have built themselves a house in the former orangery and are converting the courtyard to mewsstyle houses. Five new houses have also been built and sold in the paddock beyond the gardener's cottage so that Wormleybury will soon support a cosy hamlet around St Lawrence's Church.

From the builder's point of view, it makes sense to put in as many units as

For what it's worth

Things are looking up, according to the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors, who report sustained improvement in the housing market in the first three months of the year. This contrasts favourably with the depressing autumn report last year which said there was little sign of an upturn in the housing market. Falling interest rates and competitive mortgages are two of the reasons for the improved activity.

Yet better sales do not mean bener prices. Quality period properties are showing the best increases but agents warn against unrealistic pricing. Mark Everett of Michael Everett & Co in Surrey voices the general opinion: "Overpriced properly is sticking badly. Accurate pricing is vital. A widespread shortage of

good houses on the market. particularly in the South East and South West, is also affecting prices. Devon and Dorset have enjoyed a record first quarter.

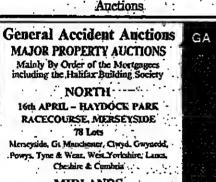
Agents remain cautious about another false dawn and will be watching the Budget for anything that might damage the fragile market. "Don't get too excited." warns Tony Gray of Fraser Wood in the West Midlands. "It's not so much a feel good' factor but rather an 'I don't feel too bad' factor".

Who's moving

Nummer has become Usynonymous with Sarah Ferguson, who was brought up in the Hampshire village. The Cottage which belonged to the Duchess' grandmother is up for sale. A pretty thatched, fourbedroom, three-reception room house, it has recently been rewired, rethatched and redecorated and sold through John D Wood (01962 86131) for

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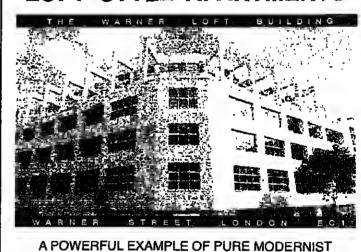
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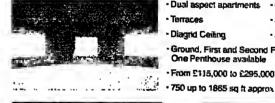
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tutional use, because it is a fairly low-inten-

sity use," explains Mr Burion. "But we are

against enabling development on the

whole because it is almost impossible tu

build new houses in the grounds without

compromising the character of the origi-

by conservationists. Mr Murphy is look-

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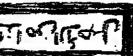
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Take two travellers, give them two hundred pounds, and

You have cash, a few clothes and a passport. How far can you get, and how good a time can you have, in 48 hours? We set two Independent writers the task of finding out, each seeking to outdo the other and set a new trend for instant travel.

The rules: Claire Gervat and Simon Calder were each allowed £200. They started out at dawn on Saturday morning, from Victoria station in central London, aiming to get as far as possible and back in 48 hours. The money had to cover everything: transport, food and drink, accommodation, and entertainment. Both decided that the best bet for an instant cut-price getaway lay at Gatwick, but their paths diverged even before leaving Victoria...

The Ticket

I once carried my passport around with me for a year because I was so enthrolled by the idea of being able to take off at a moment's notice. When it came to it, the reality was slightly less romantic, at least at first. Dawn on Victoria Station after a late night is not the time to go running around saving a pound here or there. I leapt on a Gatwick Express (£8.90), which was just leaving and

arrived at Gatwick at 7am.

I had only light hand luggage and what I was wearing (jeans, plus T-shirt under shirt-jacket under padded jacket) seemed likely to adapt to most places. I was likely to go. I couldn't go too far, otherwise I'd spend the whole weekend on a plane, and I couldn't go anywhere that demanded visas. It seemed likely that I'd end up somewhere in Europe, though I hoped it might be some-where like Istanhul or Funcbal in Madeira - at the very least somewhere warmer than London.

In the end I had to limit my ideas. My first stop at Gatwick was the Thomas Cook stand, where I sat going through the list of possible destinations. Charter flights were more or less out, as I had to be hack for work on Monday, but the scheduled fare to both Funchal and Istanhul was more than £300, Other destinations were too expensive or too full. If I'd gone to Heathrow, I could have flown to Lisbon for £111, but I wouldn't have arrived until the evening. However, at Gatwick I struck gold - Madrid for

at Gatwick I struck gold — Madrid for £101, including tax. A quick visit to Flightbookers yielded nothing better, so hack I went to buy my ticket.

The flight was at 8.45am, so I had just enough time to grab a can of Coke (45p) to stave off hunger before boarding. The heaviest thing I was carrying was the Parach Civide to Furner, which I already Rough Guide to Europe, which I already owned; but there are several shops at the airport where you can buy a guidebook to wherever you end up going.

The Holiday

At the airport in Madrid I changed £80 and got 14.354 pesetas (one peseta more to the pound than in Gatwick).

The airport bus to the centre of town took less than 20 minutes, so I was soon walking along Calle de Fuencarrai, just off Gran Via, which the guidebook said was a good place for cheap hotels. At the fourth attempt I found a single room for £16 in the two-star Hostal Medieval (whose fixtures, thankfully, were modern), a family-run place in the heart of the Malasaña district. The owner took me off for a strong coffee in the next-door café and issued stern warnings about pickpockets, especially in the Rastro flea-market every Sunday

In the end I didn't go there, because so much else appealed. I went to the Prado to look at the Goyas, El Grecos, Velasquezes and Boschs; I visited the Reina Solia Art Centre, which houses Spain's main modern art collection. I wandered round the Botanical Gardens to see the first of the spring flowers. I went for long walks in the Retiro, a huge park to the east of central Madrid; on Sunday especially, the sun shone and the Madrilenos were out in droves, listening to buskers and sitting in open-air cases in the park. I also spent plenty of time sitting in cases, lapping up the sunshine and watching the world go by with a glass of something and a tapa or two.

The Return

I had enough money left over for a taxi to the airport (2,500ptas), which is just as well as I didn't have the energy to do anything else after all that walking. The flight was on time, so I was back at Gatwick by I0pm on Sunday. I had £10 left; fatigue and self-indulgence won out over frugality, so I caught the Garwick Express back to town. It had been a perfect weekend: fine art. sunshine and café society. Only one problem: it did make Monday morning that little bit grimmer.

Where the money went: Train from Victoria to Garwick; £8.90. Flight to Madrid and back; £101. Can of Coke at Gatwick: 45p. Purchase of 14,354 pesetas: £80. Train from Gatwick to Victoria: £8.90. Total: £199.25.

Claire Gervat

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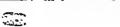
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and see how far they can go

The Ticket

The Gatwick Express costs £8.90 one-way. But you can save £1.50 by buying a ticket to Crawley on an ordinary train, and jump off when it stops at Gatwick airport small stuff, but every little helps when you have no idea where you are going. And this buys a day return, just in case I was obliged to come back to London. Nothing, whether a trip on Eurostar from Waterloo or a flight from Heathrow or

Stansted, was ruled out, . Gatwick is the obvious choice for a jaunt like this, because of its mix of charters and scheduled flights and the proximity to the Newhaven and Isle of Wight ferries just in case all the planes are full. I hoped I would find a return flight for around £100, leaving plenty for incidentals. Dawn on a foggy day at

Gatwick presents a screenful of temptations: departures to Catania, San Juan and Tallinn flicker alluringly on the TV monitors. First, though, you need a ticket. I went straight to the travel agency on the station concourse, called Flightbookers. In response to a request for a cheap flight, I was politely referred elsewhere on the grounds that the company specialised in long-haul travel. Leaving the office. I was a bemused to read a board advertising short-haul flights to Paris, Amsterdam and Frankfurt for around £100.

Health risks presented obstacles to truly global gallivanting. Places like Caird or Goa were ruled out because of the impossibility of taking all the necessary health precautions.

Self-preservation apart, no preconceptions were permitted about where I might end up, but the prospect of a destination rather warmer than Stockholm or Moscow appealed. This implied a charter flight to the Mediterranean. The problem with charters as far as the instant traveller is

- concerned is that they are intended for boliday-makers who plan in advance. Although the charter operators have staff at the airport, most will decline to sell you a ticket. But the crafty traveller in search of a bargain will head for room 1226 of the Hilton Hotel.

This improbable residence is the Gatwick home of Avro, one of Britain's leading seat-only special-ists. Working on the principle that no commodity is more perishable than an aircraft seat, the company is happy to sell space on immi-nent departures. At about the position where a trouser press would be in an ordinary hotel room sits a huge board on which all the day's flights are chalked. An instant result: "We can get

Skybreak. Putting my go-anywhere cash on the table, I was offered a return flight for £129 to Faro. The fickle finger of flying fate was pointing firmly at Portugal. I munched through a £3

breakfast at Spudulike, then mulled over the alternatives as I meandered through the airport. Not all the options were alluring. A train was just about to depart for Glasgow, costing £68 return and scheduled to take nearly 10 hours. British Airways' destinations were tempting: Miami, New York, Nairobi, all closer in terms of time than Glasgow, but beyond my budget. So 1 checked out the chances of check-in for a cheaper short-haul flight. Claire's plane to Madrid had flown, but another was bound for Faro. How much?

"We have a World Offer

of £129.50 including tax".

So for an extra 50 pence on

the charter fare on offer, I

could have more legroom.

Drink a beer on the flight

(free on BA, £1.50 on Air

2000), and the sums shift in

fayour of scheduled. I paid. The flight, like many oth-

ers that morning, was delayed by fog. This meant lunch (a £3 picnic from the

Whistlestop supermarket),

which was nearly to tip me over the edge. I should

have changed money first.

Asking around at all the

bureaux de change, the hest

deal was from Travelex. I

had planned to change £50.

But the prospect of 11,000 crisp. Portuguese escudos

for £50.85 proved too

tempting. I would tackle the problem of getting back to London with only £6.75

later. While mists and the

backlog of flights cleared, I

stood in Waterstone's trying to memorise the Cadogan

The pension that the lady at

Faro tourist office recom-

mended had twice as many

stars (two) as I could afford.

So I ended up at the Resi-

dencia Madelena instead,

where a room with no view

costs £11 a might. And to moddy the waters a little

about just how far I actually got, I took the coastal train to Lagos. Technically, this is the delightful resort at the

west of the Algarve rather than the former capital of

Nigeria, but at least I could

get a picture taken in front

of the sign saying LAGOS. Three more substantial

rewards repaid any amount

of aggravation, and would

justify £200 of anyone's

Guide to the Algarve.

The Holiday



Paradise on the Algarye

you to Faro at 1pm for £49." But this was a one-way fare, with no guaranteed space for the return flight at the same fare. The Avro representative suggested he give me the name of its agent in the southern Portuguese town. The staff there would be able to offer me something, "but it may not be until Tuesday."

I elected to try to arrange more certain journey. Thomas Cook has an agency in the arrivals hall of Gatwick's south terminal, selling hotel rooms in London to inbound passengers. But for people after a quick getaway in the opposite direction, the staff can check late availability with another seat-only company,

The world's finest col-lection of sponge cakes is exhibited each Sunday morning in the porch of the church in the centre of Portimão, a fishing port astride a broad estuary. Sweet, syrupy and sticky cakes are sold in aid of church funds, at prices that even travellers counting their escudos will find tempting. Who needs lunch when you have an industrial-sized wedge of sponge in your backpack?

Another church pro-vided the cultural highlight. Sao Antonio, in Lagos, is a Baroque implosion of gilded woodwork, heavy with cherubs and trompesl'œil, that looks as if it has floated in from Florence.

By supper time, the effects of the cake overdose had worn off sufficiently for a meal as fine as it was filling. On any ordinary holiday, the Vilaça restaurant - tucked into a doddery old backstreet in Faro - would be just the sort of honest. local haunt where you don't know what a meal will cost and neither do you care. I asked for the special, but not for its price, and sweated.

The grilled swordfish tasted as if it had leapt straight from the Atlantic into the fire. The intense flavours of the accompanying salad spoke of a land where winter had never really happened, and were attenuated by a glass of coarse and cheerful (and, I hoped, cheap) wine. I was relieved to find that this feast cost just £6, so I would avoid washing-up duty that night. I tipped generously – and happily – and vowed to return in a less anxious state.

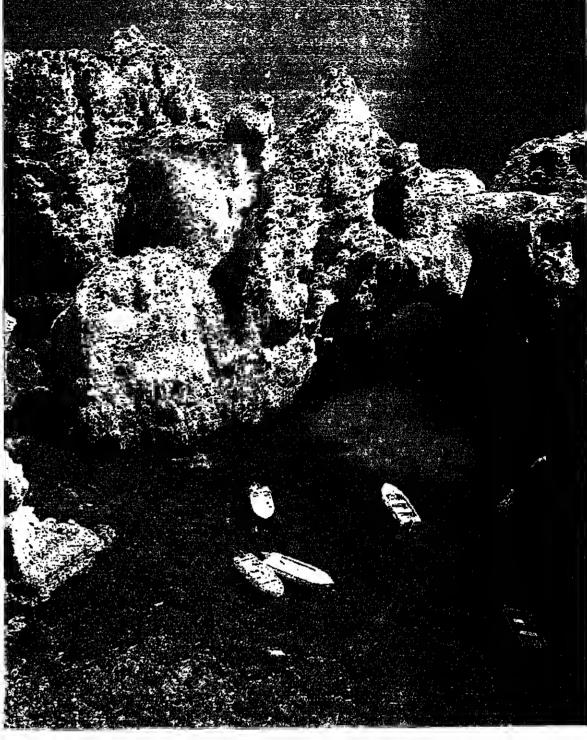
The Return

The good thing about scheduled flights is that they are frequent. The bad thing about my ticket was that it said "no change of reservation". The kindness of the check-in agent at Faro airport meant she allowed me on an earlier flight without fuss. Perhaps she felt sorry for someone who looked out of fortune.

Back at Gatwick, my travels took a surreal turn. If you walk out of the north terminal, just past the Shell garage you hit a long-distance footpath. Join the Sussex Borders Path (as it is called) as it skirts the Fuel Farm and heads off towards the Ramada Hotel. After a half-hour hike, you are at Horley station. From here, a mile up the line from Gatwick, the train fare falls to £6. I made it back to Victoria with 25p and tired feet. Baroque churches, cakes

amazing what £200 can buy. Train from Victoria to Gatwick: £7.40. Return flight to Faro: £129.50 (of which 10 per cent was tax). Food and drink at Gatwick: £5, Purchase of 11,000 escudos: £50.85. Train from Horley to Victoria: £6. Total: £199.75.

Simon Calder



Fishing boats in view from the cliffs around Lagos

Photograph: Ulli Seer



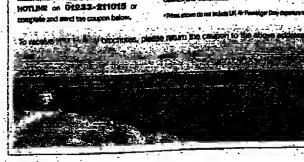
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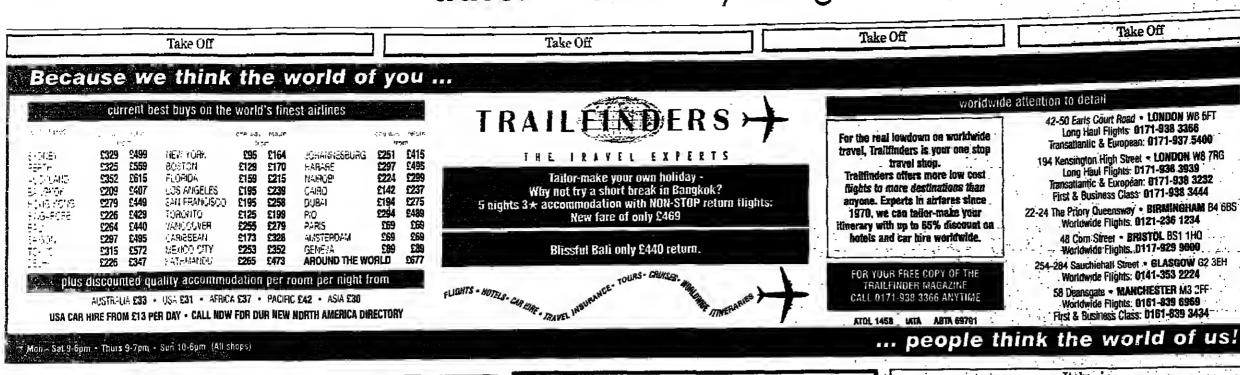
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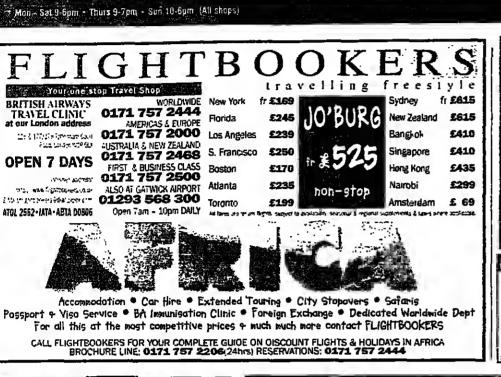
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but someone has to do it

Sue Wheat meets three people who make a living by, and for, skiing

bey think it's all over, or at Holidays' biggest destination. The least it soon will he. Though company now takes 90,000 people the prospects for Easter look good, most northern hemisphere skiers are awaiting the thaw and a long, warm wait until next season. Yet for some people a week a year is just not enough. They make a living by, and for, skiing.

THE INSTRUCTOR



Diane went out to San Carlos de Bariloche in southern Argentina as a nurse, doing night shifts so she could ski by day. But the pull of the mountains was too much and she exchanged tending those who had injured themselves skiing to trying to prevent them from having to go to hospital at all - hy becoming a ski instructor. "I did a local guides course to learn about the area, and when I got fed up with nursing, someone suggested I use my guiding skills as a ski instructor. So I spent a season teaching South American kids aged between two and nine how to handle having stiding feet."

"It's bard work, but great fun. The first class is at 9am and you usually have six or seven people. In the busy season, you prohably have half an hour for lunch and go back to teaching again until about 4.30pm. In the evening, you join other instructors or skiers yon've met. It's really sociable, but you have to remember you're a professional, too - you can't go too mad or you'd never he able to get on the slopes in the morning."

For enthusiasts who can't bear the thought of packing their skis away for summer, South America is the ideal place as the season starts just after Enrope's ends. "A lot of ski teams from the corthern hemisphere train here, but it's less well known for Europeans, many of whom want a summer holiday in the summer. The all-round good egg, you might be atmosphere is different - Latin counting the days until the season Americans definitely have more ends. But Bridget Collver doesn't

THE OPERATOR Debbie Marshall

Snow's up by Chris Gill

the same themes, it's good

some special places retaining

an individual character, con-

tent to appeal to a narrow

market rather than the broad

day a couple of weeks ago.

Andermatt is the ultimate

Alpine backwater. The valley-

slightly towny in style, despite

its small size) is isolated from

ing trains climb over the lat-

For 8

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To the miles

in the Alli

four run to the slopes could start in Surbiton, the home of Crystal Holidays - where every day is focused, snowflake sharp, winter. Debbie Marshall started working with Crystal Holidays seven years ago, when the company just bad one chalet in France. Now she is programme meant being up at 6.30am with the director for France - Crystal five other chales girls I lived with Lewis, Kalpesh Lathigro

skiing a year to France, Austria, North America and Italy.

"Each winter season starts as soon as the previous season ends," explains Debbie. "After the winter, we start recruiting for the next season and hire about 300 staff as reps, resort managers, chalet girls, chefs, nannies, maintenance people and head office staff. Almost all staff recruited are British hut they need to speak French, ski proficiently and have the right kind of personality for the job you could say they're our ambassadors."

The contracting programme starts in December until the end of the season, contracting chalets, apartments and hotels; at the same time, we start brochure production. Our first brochure will be out in two weeks, and there are two more editions through the year. Before the season starts, there is a massive training course for everyone we've recruited, then the first arrivals come in the first week of December. We have a few quiet weeks, then Christmas and New Year, which are enormous."

Courchevel is proving the most popular French resort, followed hy Meribel and La Plagne, and the nuclear tests in the Pacific don't seem to have prompted clients to give France a miss. "The main problem seems to be the franc at the moment, rather than the



nuclear testing," explains Debbie, but people who really love good

THE CHALET GIRL **Bridget Collyer**

If you spent the winter cooking, cleaning, mothering in a surrogate fashion and being an regret being any of those things. She was recruited by Bladon Lines to work in Verbier, an upmarket and lively resort in Switzerland. Basically, I was hostessing a week-long house party every week. It's a really about making endless home-made special week for everyone - it's cookies drinking unlimited free alcotheir holiday, they've saved up for it, they love skiing and they probably want to party as well."—

The to be good

hol, skiing five hours a day, one of the most beautiful resorts in the world and meeting hundreds of people her own age? "No" says Bridget. "I loved to be stop I've ever had."

"A day in my life as a chalet girl

Andermatt, that wonderful backwater



and walking to the chalet via the

hread shop. Then I'd cook breakfast, make the packed lunches while everyone was eating and bake a cake or biscuits for afternoon tea. After that, I'd wave them off on

their day's skiing, making sure no

one bad forgotten their ski pass, and tidy the chalet. I'd go skiing

from about 11.30am until 4pm and then go back to give them afternoon

tea, and prepare the evening meal which had to be good. Then I'd go

hack to my apartment for a while, and later back to the chalet to cook

and serve the three-course dinoer.

It was a party every evening - every

chalet had unlimited wine included

it - it was the best job I've ever had."

Photographs: Colin McKillop, Geraint

The few who go are everyone." How right he is.

Was there nothing she didn't like

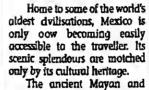
Snow report

What e wonderful thing is Waltitude. Throughout this mild and quite sunny week (as in the previous week), altitude has been the key to good skiing conditions looked. Sunshine also powdery snow was to be found pretty well exclusively on north-facing slopes, and the only resort-level runs worth risking your skis on mountains or trees. There was some snow early in the week in most French and Italian resorts, and in impact on conditions: to find good skiing this week you had to find slopes where February's snow is still lasting well. As I write, on Friday moming, there is wet snow falling here in Klosters, following a dusting overnight: but the forecast doesn't encourage hopes for the decent dump of snow that would be very welcome in most parts of the Alps as Easter approaches. The Furope's best all-round depths and rather lower temperatures than in the Alps. Meanwhile, winter still rules in north America: Colorado and Utah resorts offer low temperatures and good conditions after nowfalls early in the week and more fresh snow was expected this weekend in both the east and west of the Continent - giving a welcome boost to Whistler/Blackcomb, in particular, and to the New

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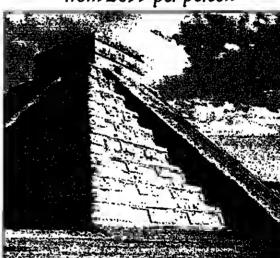
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Lake Patzcuaro and take a boat to Janitzio island, inhabited by the Tarasan Indians, Afternoon in Tzintzuntzan. Overnight in Patzcuaro.



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Doy 7. Guadalajara. Walking tour of Guadalajara; the Cathedral of Assumption; Governor's Palace; the Orphanage; and the Theotre Degoliado. Free afternoon to explore.

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n a world where most ski impassable St Gotthard pass to the south lies Italy, or at mostly attracted by an outleast Italian Switzerland; in fit that encapsulates the to know that there are still 1980, a road tunnel under the appeal of Andermatt pass was opened, but its Alpine Adventures/Mounmouth is some miles down the tain Reality, an amalgam of valley below Andermatt, so two specialist off-piste the summer traffic that once guiding businesses, now mass of holiday skiers. One trundled past the village on its such resort is Andermatt, way between Zurich and under the direction of the founder of one of them. where I spent a memorable Milan is syphoned off, effec-Alex Clapasson, AA/MR tively pushing Andermatt even further from the beaten track. operates in various Swiss resorts, but Andermatt is bome base, and Clapasson bas recently tightened his

The great majority of bottom village (traditional but Andermatt's skiers are Swiss, barracked on the edge of the village. When the lira will the Valais and Graubunden by stand it, the village attracts high passes which are closed liadais through the tonice. stand it, the village attracts in winter - though car-carry- too. But the British, once numerous here, as in so many ter and burrow beneath the little old Swiss resorts, are thin former. Over the equally on the ground.

lift company. The new cable-car up the Gemsstock has twice the capacity of the old one. and runs faster, even so, it is no monster, and morning queues are still common. especially when huses arrive from Lucerne and "improvements" in store? Absolutely not, says Clapasson: "What we have is more, it was the only onc special, and we must not with snow on the streets. spoil it by opening it up to That's what I call special

station of Andermatt's new

those who can handle it have plenty of room to explore their limits. Practically all the marked runs are now marked black, including all three main runs from the 2963m top north-facing bowl are not fearsomely steep, but offer grip on the resort's operamoguls amid rugged terrain; below mid-mountain tions. This tall, lean mountain man now sits in an are another 700m of black skiling, agala anothy mogals. office in the smart base But that's only the begincable-car as director of the ning as far as Clapasson's guests are concerned. Within the bowl is huge amounts of steep off-piste skiing; outside it, three or four adventurous routes in different directions. And the place gets snow. In the course of my recent Swiss tour, I visited eight resorts, Zurich. Are further and only one had something resembling powder snow - Andermatt. What's

The delight of the Gems-

stock is that it is a big,

steep mountain on which

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PER PLUS - GREAT

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Britain's newest theme park doesn't officially open until Friday. But Tracey Garner got a sneak preview, thanks to her son Jack

odern-day theme parkery is a funny business. We send a Brit, Trevor Davies, to mastermind the yearlong culture thrill ride in Copenhagen, European Capital of Culture for 1996. In return, Denmark sends us Legoland. Themaker of the plastic bricks has a longestablished original in Billund, a small town in the middle of Jutland (and nowhere). The Danish invasion is the latest attack in the theme park war that is gathering momentum and g-forces across England, a country already endowed with a much higher occurence of thrills per bectare. Can Denmark's audacious opening next week - so close to Her Majesty's home - attract the nation's funseekers? I took my son Jack, aged eight, to find out.

Lions, polar bears, lizards and the like can still be found on the old Windsor Safari Park site, but these are now creatures of the Lego kind - painstakingly pieced together out of millions of those little plastic bricks, which many a mother will recognise as the things that hurt like hell when you tread on them and are a nightmare to get out of the Hoover's innards. The preview day on Saturday, ahead of next Friday's public opening, was exclusively for members of the Lego Club. It was hilled as an opportunity to road test the park - in trade terms, a "soft opening to iron out problems before the big day. Pay the discounted admission of £10, and he among the first kids on the new blocks.

So all the people who flooded in at 10am last Saturday were already Lego aficionados. The models certainly lived up to their expectations. Attention to detail is paramount: bright plastic hirds in the trees, an mjection-moulded boy attempting to retrieve his kite from the roof of a huilding, even a huilt-by-numbers dog relieving himself against a real tree. Twenty million bricks alone are. (the ones who don't happen to be a £35 tie. But from about 4pm used to recreate the cities of Europe. not counting the ones that are no doubt stuck down the back of the company sofa.

do at this latest addition to our growof a driving licence at the end of it) been polished up. and piloting a hoat along a snaking river were probably the most popu- as tame as first appearances might lar attractions, and the queues built have you believe. The Danes obviup quickly. A hot summer Sunday ously get a kick out of sending jets of could be quite an ordeal.

vironming them enthusiastically along ladies toilet whose Mum was des- Danish building techniques



Piccadilly Circus built by numbers at Legoland's latest venture in Windsor

blasting from his mouth, while his son played quietly in the corner. As ever, the children's adventure play area fails in the way of many theme parks: a serious lack of seating for parents playing with bricks).

Every theme park has to have live entertainment, and Legoland's are a mixed hag. The harbour show was But putting the bricks to one side superb, with five enthusiastic sailors for a moment, what else is there to enacting the Mystery of the Missing Lego Bricks (down the hack of the ing band of theme parks? If you go sofa, surely?), and leaping into freezexpecting white knuckle rides and ing water from the top of a 30ft lightroller coasters, you'll be sadly disap- house to rapturous applause. It's pointed. Rides are few and far probably best to draw a veil over the between, and unashamedly aimed at other shows in the hope that when the under-12s. The chance to drive "Overture and Beginners" is called on your own Lego car (with the promise opening night, the acts will have

And beware of the maze: it's not water up the trouser legs of unsus-There are several areas for children pecting visitors. Few found it funny to play with bricks. One excited chap . on a freezing March afternoon, grasped a couple of motorbikes, including the toddler found in the. Eight-year-old lack, impressed by

a mini road with full sound effects perately trying to dry off his clothes under the hand dryer.

The Lego Shop - which is strategically positioned at the exit - stocks an unequalled range of all things Lego; from computer mouse mats to onwards the shop and its tills seemed

inadequate under the challenge of hoards of departing visitors digging deep into their pockets. I'm sure I wasn't alone in promising my eight year old a trip to Toys 'R' Us the next day instead of standing in the

unmoving queue. When it came to sampling the restaurants and cafés we hreathed a igh of relief that we'd opted to hring our own picnic. Queues did trail out of the doors, but as the day was heavily hilled as "a chance for us to try out procedures", grumhles about inexperienced staff and equipment failure can he forgiven as next? teething problems.

However, the most important opinions are surely those of loyal Lego Club members. Eight-year-old Jack, who should own shares in Lego if the thousands of hricks piled up in his hedroom are anything to go by, had this to say: "I thought the models were excellent. They had lots of detail, lights flashed on them and some moved, like the giant spiders legs. My favourite models were in the Technic rock 'n' roll hand which were worked by a Lego mechanical system. It must have taken years and years to

huild all the models. The shop should

be bigger to take all the people. The panning for gold, which cost £1. made my haods cold, hut I got a Lego medal for the gold I collected. I loved my driving lesson, but I was sad there weren't any big rides like the ones at Thorpe Park.

It's good to welcome a new theme park to add to the "How do we entertain the kids over this school holiday' list, but Legoland Windsor's failure to provide enough entertainment for the adults and older kids bodes ill for return visits - seen it. donc it. what's

> Starting blocks: Legoland Windsor (0990 626375) opens to the public at daily thereafter until the end of September, plus weekends and half-term in October. The park closes at 6pm, with late opening to 8pm in July and August. Adults £15, children aged 4-15 £12. aged 3 or under free. Discounts of £1 if you book in advance on 0990 626364.



SIMON

What Anne East of London had planned Wwas "The trip of a lifetime for my 83-year-old mother", using a Eurosiar Irain from London to Paris. What she got was a 20,000 Seconds Under the Sea nightmare. Question: was she was offered in compensation (a) nothing: (b) a form with which to apply for a voucher that might lead eventually to a replacement ticket; or (c) full recompense for all the moncy she lost plus four free return tickets to Paris?

The answer is "all three", but (c) was achieved only because of Ms Easi's persistence and refusal to he palmed off with excuses. Now we all have grumbles about flaws on our travels, and most of the time the best solution is to grin and bear it (and possibly yow to stay at home next time). But sometimes events go so calamitously wrong that anything short of generous redress is a scandal.

So it was in Ms East's case. I shall spare you every detail about her trip from Waterloo to Calais and back; suffice it to say that at precisely the moment she and her mother should have been in Paris, they were only arriving in Ashford. This, as it turned out, was the highlight of the trip. Once the train entered the Channel Tunnel. it developed a fault and all the lights were turned out to conserve energy. After a total of 16 hours, of which six were spent in the tunnel, Ms East and her mother arrived back at Waterloo, It was 2.30am.

"We were offered a taxi home, but no one mentioned anything about how Eurostar might make up for this disastrous journey. In the end I asked a customer service representative, and was handed a form to apply for a voucher." Tired and hungry (the last sandwiches having been caten 15 hours earlier), Ms East was in no mood to argue. But the following day she wrote to European Passenger Services. which runs Eurostar in the UK, asking for

more reasonable compensation.

Nothing happened for a week, save for her telling the Independent what was going on. Then the telephone rang, it was Eurostar's finance director, apologising for the series of hlunders and agreeing to meet Ms East's claim in full. He also threw in a couple of free trips to the French capital. Commendable customer relations eventually, but if Ms East had not made a fuss she might have been left with nothing.

One reason Manchester is officially England's "top tourist towo", as we reported last week, is the welcome shown to visitors. The award prompted Chris Walmsley of London to write with his own experience of the citizens' generosity.

I was standing on a busy main road in Manchester in the pouring rain with a suitcase at my feet. A man driving a brown Datsun pulled up, leapt out, grabbed my case and only then explained that he was giving me a lift to wherever I was going.

Since my mother never advised me against accepting lifts from strangers, I got in and was driven, unsolicited, halfway peross Manchester to Victoria station. When the driver asked me where I came from I said 'near Watford' and he replied 'Someone's got to live there'. When I asked him where he came from he said 'Salford Quays'; I kept my mouth shut. I still wonder who he thought I was."

A Northwest Airlines flight from Gatwick to Minneapolis flew into turbulence at Christmas when a party of travellers let the party spirit get the better of them. A group of passengers became rowdy and started throwing food at cahin crew. The flight attendants refused to serve them any more alcohol, so the parents deployed their children to steal liquor from the drinks cart and a hit of a fracas began. Now a Surrey discount agency, Media Travel, has taken up the theme with its brochure of cut-price tickets to North America. The small print warns transatlantic passengers that "All fights (sic) must take place between 8 January and 28 March".

Doarks, though snow was still on the ground at Alton Towers in Staffordshire (0990 204060) when it opened for business last Saturday. Instead of unveiling a new thrill ride, this season the main attraction is the new hotel adjacent to the site. The Alton Towers Hotel will remain open all year; the theme park closes on 3 November. Drayton Manor (01827 287979), close by at Tamworth. opens on 30 March.

Blackpool Pleasure Beach, which celebrates its centenary this summer, is offering all rides for 50p each today and tomorrow. This deal includes the Pepsi Max Big One, Europe's highest roller-coaster, normally priced at £3.50. Prices revert to normal from next weekend.

On the east coast, the Magical World of Fantasy Island (01754 872030) opens weekends only until 5 May, plus the whole of Easter week. The new attraction is "the world's first indoor hot-air balloon experience", enabling you to float to the top of the glass pyramid that houses the park.

of Adventures (01372 729560) and Thorpe Park lies, but warns that Bedruthan Steps, near Pad-(01932 569393) open their gates today, through until the end of October.

Qummer has arrived for many of Britain's theme The Field Studies Council's field centre at Slapton Ley, south of Totnes in Devon, will offer thrills of a more sublime kind when courses for adults begin on 19 April. The first option, "Birds of South Devon", is already sold out, but other events during the summer at the centre include a Photographic Safari (28 July-2 August, £185) and "Dart to Plym - exploring the South Devon coast-line" (23-30 August, £245). Call 01548 580466 for versity of Nottingham more details.

> ir travellers from Devon have a new link with ADublin from 31 March, when Jersey European (01392 360777) begins operating flights between Exeter and the Irish capital. The lowest return fare £104 (including tax) if you stay over a Saturday

A good beach guide is included in the new North AComwall holiday brochure, which is available free by calling 01208 261229. It recommends In south-east England, both Chessington World · Summerleaze beach in Bude as ideal for famistow, is dangerous: "A place to look at rather than to sunbathe on."

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Vork is the venue for a literary weekend from 26 to 28 April, organised by Ways With Words (01803 867311). Sarah Kennedy, Jane Gardam and AS Byatt are among the speakers at the Dean Court Hotel (where the event is based) and St William's College. The price per person is £195.

The "Learn at Leisure" programme of the University of Nottingham includes a weekend in Dorchester investigating Thomas Hardy and Tess (24-27 May). Call (115-95) 6526 for details.

ast week Cheshire County Council won the Eng-Lland for Excellence "Tourism for All" award for doing most to help less able travellers. The counfor the 80-minute bop from Exeter to Dublin is cil has just published a Welcome Guide to the county for visitors with disabilities. Regular, large print and tape versions are available free from Cheshire Tourism and Marketing, Goldsmith House, Hamilton Place, Chester CH1 1SE.

> English Heritage begins its programme of events aimed at "Bringing History Alive" at Easter. with 15th-century music at Helmsley Castle in North Yorkshire and falconry at Battle Abbey in East Sussex. Special Events Line: 0171-973 3396.

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At most hotels children aged 12 and under also sell free from the Kids' menu during lunch and dininer when dining with their parents. Skrylar rates may also apply first-week. Bookings are subject to availability of rooms allocated to this offer Rates are payable in toost currency as indicated. The Pound Sterling prices educate the approximate equivalent of the fixed local price. For full terms and conditions, please refer to the Westernder Plus brochure.

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'If you have to call reconstructing sheep shelters art, well, that's all right by me'

The sculptor Andy Goldsworthy is turning part of Cumbria into a sculpture park. By Rosie Millard

he sculptor Andy Goldsworthy is celebrating the Millennium by reconstructing a hundred stone sheep shelters in Cumbria. He is best known for the Transience of his work farches of ice carved at the North Pole; a curtain made from hand-joined twigs and leaves of sycamore) but this project, he hopes, will last at least another millenium "Ephemeral work is my core nourishment." he agrees. "But it's about the past. A moment that's gone. Sheepfolds is about the future: it's something launching us into what's

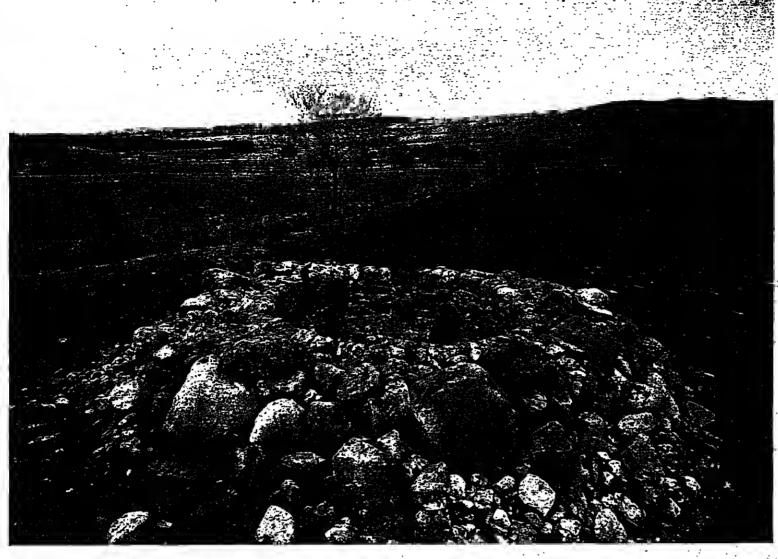
Indeed, the recent past of the Cumbrian sheepfold is a pitiful one. Once an essential part of hill-farming, these small walled constructions appeared on fells and local villages in their hundreds. There were three distinct varieties: sheepfolds were for keeping the sheep together: washfolds were for annual washing prior to clipping; and pinfields, built in villages, were holding-pens for stray or stolen sheep.

Yet modern sheep-farming, all wire fences and chemical baths, meant farmers stopped the labour-intensive practice of going on to the fell to tend their sheep. So the little stone folds, used for thousands of years to wash, shelter and number their woolly inhabitants, have been abandoned and left to decay.

Goldsworthy's project hopes to redress this. An initiative by Cumbria County Council, Northern Arts and the Lottery, Sheepfolds is a £620,000project to bring back some of the folds to the hills, albeit for aesthetic rather than agrarian reasons. "I'm working where the existing folds used to be," says Goldsworthy, who is rebuilding all three separate types with the expert help of local dry-stone wallers, "I'm rebuilding folds which lay on the fell, or by drove-paths, by rivers, and in the centres of villages. I'm repairing folds with the stones left lying around, or where I have to start from scratch, I'm bringing in local stone." In each he is placing an abstract piece of sculpture: a monu-mental stone, perhaps, or a cone made from carefully placed layers of stones, "Each fold will contain a "Not everyone is so positive. "He's had a lot of publicity," says Bampton hill farmer Peter Allen, "But I just wish it drew attention to the difficulties of work which will be discovered by people when they look inside. Many art. And why can't he just do one, not people won't even know it's there. I could have easily put in something which poked out and dominated Well no, but some think the everything, but I wanted it to be subtle, and quici."

Indeed, the entire procedure, whilst not exactly stealthy, has been organised in an extrentely low-key manner. "We sought a general blessing and it was on that basis that we proceeded." says Cumbria's public art consultant Steve Chettle. The hill farmers who and own the land were individually canvassed. On the fields, in their kitchens, in their barns. We went and found them all. In the rain, in the snow. Public art in any landscape, not least the landscape of Cumbria, is a sensitive issue," says Chettle, understandably wary of wrecking the spec-

The idea seems to have worked. "I'm not against old walls put back up again, by any manner of means," says hill farmer Bob Cuddy, whose thousand Herdwicks are just about to start lambing in Borrowdale Valley, "If you have to call it Art; well, that's all right hy me. I'm all in favour of old folds and washes. It's a grand thing. The artist, well, he's doing his thing and



he's giving our local lads a bit of work. It's hetter than other arty stuff that's here." continues Cuddy, shuddering at the memory. We've a Thing, and I'll call it a Thing, imported into our dale from God knows where - the centenary of the National Trust. It's as much in keeping with the Lake District as a low-flying jet.'

working on the land as well as to his a hundred? Have you got 100 Rodin

ber and presence of Sheepfolds will draw attention to the problems and peculiarities of Lakeland hill farming. "Rural landscape is geriatric," says Andrew Humphries of Newton Rigg in Mungrisedale, site for the first two finished Goldsworthy folds. "We just patch it up and repair it. This gives us a chance to make new marks in the landscape, which both echo what went before, and give it a newly sustainable element. According to Humphries, the pro-

to the tourist-blighted Lake District. All the folds are being built on, or near public rights of way and the pubtacular landscape of the Lakes. "We > lie will be encouraged to visit them via had to take in the particular qualities a series of postcards helpfully marked with Ordnance Survey Grid reference

People who visit the Lake District will now have a chance to explore and understand what they have come to see. The culture and people of the hill farmers," says Humphries. "It's difficult to see it in a vacuum, but if they can see something like the restored folds, it'll seem to matter. The Cumbrian sheepfolds are the only surviv-

Below: the sculptor Andy Goldsworthy, in his studio

ject will usher in eco-friendly tourism

Above: each recovared sheepfold hides a work of art



ing examples of community farming in England. They were built on common land. If people get excited about the flora and fauna of Cumbria. they'll look after the orchids here; but vestiges of common land use. They've survived for over a thousand years

tourists might learn to empathise not only with the farmers but with the sheep themselves. Dry-stone waller Joe Smith is working with Goldswor-thy on the project. "To me, a wall, or these folds and washes are our last a fold, is a functional thing. But one day we were in one of Andy's Mungrisdale folds, tidying up a few and until now, no one's looked after things. We sat down to have our them. This will help people value sandwiches," says Smith. "And do you know, some Swaledale sheep Indeed, there's even a suggestion that with Goldsworthy's sheepfolds. herded in. They just came in. Just like

that. They were interested. They wandered in, and wandered out again. And do you know," continues Smith, "I can envisage people doing the same thing. Wandering in, scratching their heads and wandering out again.

Photographs: Craig Eastor

More information about Sheepfolds is available from Steve Chettie, Cumbria Public Art, The Old Stables, Redhills, Penrith, Cumbria CAI1 ODT.

COUNTRY PURSUITS



Steve Raiphs, Bowyer, Norfolk

For me the best part of the working week is when I walk into my garden and fire an arrow from one of my longbows that is nearing completion. A really good specimen will land an arrow in the clump of trees 45 yards away.

If the bow is made from yew this will be a rather fraught experience. We bowyers refer to failures - we never have breaks. It is often said that yew will fail at the first firing

From a dull piece of wood a good bowyer can produce a relatively good bow. But it is possible to produce a bad bow from an excellent piece of wood. The skill of the bowyer is to find the best timber and then produce the best possible bow from it. If it was a case of finding yew all the time I think I'd be a nervous wreck by now. A good English yew bow will take me over a week to make, and the timber it is made from will have had to be seasoned for at least five years. Even then there is more chance that it will fail at the first attempt than with a cheaper, laminated bow.

I prefer to use wood from the bole - the trunk - because that is the best way of producing staves of the right length and with the correct sap/heartwood proportions to ensure the bow is both strong and springy. If the bole is not clean of branches the timber is likely to contain pin holes, knots, sap rot, heart shake, cracks and splits. A piece of English yew that looks promising on the outside ends up as a pile of rubbish once I have cut into it and cleft some of the timber.

When I hear that a local yew tree is to be felled I rush out to see it. My mouth waters if it is dead straight like a telegraph pole; but I know from bitter experience that basically all English yew is a lottery. The best yew comes from the USA and Canada, where it grows at a higher altitude, which seems to make all the difference to quality.

I prefer to use a laminated bow, as they are more reliable. Mylaminated bows are made from a mixture of South American boxwood and hickory, for large archery specialists in this country, Germany, Holland and Sweden, as well as for the film industry.

Most days I can be found in my workshop at home. I try to vary the day as I find it hard to perform one function all day. However on : . . Fridays I like to saw the hasic staves of the next week's hatch and to do most of the gluing of the two parts that make up the basic bow.

The least pleasant task is making the horn nocks - the traditional hook arrangement at the ends of the bow to which the string is attached. Grinding up animal horn, which I buy in from abattoirs, is a nasty, smelly husiness.
Finishing is also rather laborious

- I use a great deal of steel wool and fine abrasive paper before either French polishing or varnishing. The result is hopefully a commendable piece of craftsmanship. if I were to go for the highest

performance bow I could find I would choose an Olympic standard carbon fibre model designed by computer and made in the USA or Japan. But using a bow like that is shooting, not archery.

Steve Ralphs was talking to Clive Fewins

A little local trouble

The sheep farmers of Wales. Laccording to this week's Country Life, are far from happy about their English counterparts intruding into the Principality, It's not their braying accents and city ways. It's not even their coarse-Anglo-Saxon manners, No. what really gets them is that the English have begun to to call themselves "theckmasters" rather than shepherds, "Flockmaster?", one of Mid-Glamorgan's home-grown farmers is quoted as saying. "It sounds like something out of Star Wars."

Hail to Thee, blithe Spirit! Bird I thou never wert..." So begins Shelley's "To a Skylark". Sadly, were the poet writing in 1996 he might have continued: "Nor never more shall be." Apparently, Britain's Skylark population has gone into freefall over the past 20 years, dropping at a rate of 335. nirds a day, something the RSPB this week set up a campaign to stop. The main culprits seem to be pesticides, which have destroyed the caterpillers and other bugs that skylark chicks need. Herbicides have cut down the amount of seeds from weeds that the adult birds need. Even fields that have been 'set aside", as part of crop rotation.

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schemes, tend to be sprayed before the young birds can fledge. "If set-aside land could be left

alone during May and June, the skylarks could bring off two broods a year," Chris Mead of the British Trust for Omithology said. *But the present system has been set up to increase agriculture production rather than help the birds." He was keen to add, however, that, "it is not the fault of the farmers - they are under economic pressure." Adieu to thee ...

[inally, despite all the column inches devoted to this week's Mad Human Disease revelations, one question remains: if the Government does decide to have the nation's entire cattle herd put down, what will happen to Britain's most famous bovine. Ellie May, from The Archers?

Ellie's life has not exactly been a bed of roses recently. Only the other month listeners heard how terribly lonely she had become. stuck in field on her nwn. But surely they can't let her go to the knacker's yard in Borchester "Let's just say," says Vanessa Whitburn, the programme's editor. "we are looking at the whole BSE situation on a daily hasis."

The madness of March hares

A may see mad March hares performing their rituals in the middle of a field. When the mating urge comes over them, they caper and cavon as if the ground were red hot, and sometimes they sit upright to box with their forefeet. Oddly enough, the ones that go in for such fisticuffs are not aggressive males, fancying themselves miniature Tyons, but females giving over-enthusiastic suitors the brush-off.

Nowhere in England is there a better chance of secing bares than on the Game Conservancy Council's experimental farm at Loddington in Leicestershire. At a time when many surveys are reporting a decline in hare numbers, the population at Leddington has grown at an

astonishing rate. When the Game Consercount revealed only seven hares on 600-odd acres. With the introduction of efficient predictor-control, and a is planned so that a greater an outbreak of disease such greater diversity of farm crops. range of crops and cover is as cocaidiosis, a virulent form

ny day now, with luck, you - numbers built up rapidly to nearly 100 in 1994 - a total which Game Conservancy scientists considered remarkable. Imagine their astonishment when a census in 1995

showed 195 hares present. the causes of this spectacular revival. One is the fact that in spring and early summer the resident gamekeeper, Malcolm Brockless, clears his ground of predators. Whereas on other estates most leverets are killed by foxes and stoats, the absence of natural enemies at Loddington enables a high pro-

portion to survive. The second favourable factor is the agricultural regime. Experiment has shown that hares prefer to feed on, and live in vegetation no more On most arable farms, with large fields of wheat or barvancy took over in 1991, a ley, the crops soon grow above that height, leaving them with nothing to eat,

DUFF HART-DAVIS

available all year round. Some com is sown in winter, some in the spring, as well as linseed and beans; there are also numerous set-aside strips. planted with mixtures of grass, rape, and kale. The result is a patchwork, as agreeable to the human eye as

it is to hares and game-birds. Game Conservancy researchers readily admit that the tremendous resurgence. has taken them by sarprise. They do not yet know what. level of population the farm will safely sustain, and they fear that with so many hares At Loddington the farming on the ground there may be

tuberculosis, a bacterial infecmature animals in spring.

As a precaution, last year they shot 45 hares and sent 18 Defence gunnery ranges at Castlemartin, in Pemhrokeshire, where the Commandant, Lt Col Michael Portman, is making a bold attempt to re-colonise 6,000 acres of grassland,

A keen beagler. Colonel Portman saw from old records that hares once flourished in Pembrokeshire: the Estate, which used to own some of the land, show that in the 1880s it was not unusual to shoot 800 a year. When he arrived at Castlemartin in 1991 there was not a single hare to be seen, but the ranges were full of other ilar to jackdaws).

humans, the grassland seemed ideal for hares. Colonel Port- this autumn.

of diarrhoea, or pseudo- man therefore set about importing some, not only from tion which can quickly kill Loddington, but also from other areas. A batch from the root crops, planting new

whether his enterprise will succeed. One snag is that in winter the ranges are grazed down to the texture of a golf game-hooks of the Cawdor course by sheep brought off the Prescell mountains, so that food and cover diminish. Meanwhile, at Loddington, the Game Conservancy's neighbours have accused them of luring all the hares in Leicestershire on to their land. The opposite is maniwild life, including huzzards. festly true: that surplus aniharn owls and choughs (sim- mals are moving out into neighbouring territories - a Being untouched by chem- fact which will no doubt be icals, and rarely visited by confirmed when radiotracking experiments start

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Fig. 1, 151

St. the clining.

ammunition depot at Kineton. in Warwickshire, arrived with alive to the Ministry of WD arrows on their bottoms". Meanwhile, he has done all he can to make the environment more attractive, putting in woodland and calling local It is too early to say

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Same car, different label

A Mazda is really a Fiesta, a Proton is a Mitsubishi. What's happened to brand values? By Gavin Green

he other day I discovered that my favourite designer tie is now available in a well-known high street store, wearing the well-known high street store's label. I'll now probably run into endless other guys wearing exactly the same piece of silk around their necks. Well, things could be worse, I thought. When I was told that their ties will bave cost them half what I payed, I confess to being more peeved than surprised. We all know that designer labels have higger mark-ups than high street store's own-brands. The greater exclusivity and "brand value" kids us into believing that such extravagance is worthwhile. Nonetheless there still seems to me something dishonest about two goods with different labels actually being one and the same. My BMW of ties is now re-badged as a Ford.

There a few marketing tricks unknown to the car industry, of course. Any husiness so adept at turning tin boxes into sex symbols (as the motor industry has done over the years and is now doing with renewed vigour in its advertising), cannot be regarded as anything other than shrewd. No surprise then that, when it comes to the tie-type trick, the car industry has been there before.

We British have been particularly exposed to it. BLs many different cars in the Sixties were invariably just a small pool of models wearing different disguises. Rileys were just Morrises which were just Austins. Just as, until recently, Rovers were just Hondas with more wood inside and a smarter grille.

But the same car/different label trick is now reaching almost epidemic proportions. And, just as with me and my tie, I suspect that the poor punter, who pays great heed to brand values, is being misled.

The most recent example is the new Mazda 121. The old 121 was an oddhall little thing, made in Japan. Not many were sold in Britain but those who took the plunge, I'm told, were mostly very pleased. They no doubt valued the 121's made-in-Japan bonesty and reliability, and its ease of operation. Mazda ownership promises (and usually delivers) a hassle-free relationship between company and customer.

No doubt those 121 owners, when it comes to the trade in, will first think of the new 121. They'll visit their Mazda dealer and he assured of the many virtues of the new model (not disingenuously either, for it's a good car). They they'll probably sign oo the bottom line. I wonder how many Mazda salesmen will voluntarily admit that, in fact. Oh well, at least I kno they're buying a Ford? Designed by Ford, ping for ties next time.

developed by Ford, and huilt by Ford (in Dagenham). The new 121, you see, is nothing more or less than a Ford Fiesta with different hadges and minor changes. It's a clever move, by Mazda, to circumvent import restrictions on Japanese-made cars: being made in Britain, the new 121 is outside the quota. Ford, too, benefits: in effect, it's now making more Fiestas.

Ford is rather good at playing the this game. Its Ford Maverick 4x4 is a re-badged Nissan Terrano. The Ford Probe is a Mazda MX-6 coupe. The Ford Galaxy Multi-Purpose Vehicle (MPV) is the same as a Volkswagen Sharan, and the upcoming Seat Alhambra. That it is the best MPV is little consolation. At least when you buy a Renault Espace, you know that no non-Espace driver has one.

There are myriad other examples. The latest Rover 400 ("the best long distance ride on earth") is a Honda Civic 5-door. The Citroën Saxo, unveiled with much pomp and ceremony at the recent Geneva Show, is just a Peugeot 106 in drag. The Vauxhall Monterey 4x4 is an old Isuzu Trooper (not that it matters too much: nobody huys either). The new Citroën Synergie MPV is the same as a Peu-geot 806 or a Fiat Ulysse. The heavily promoted new Daewoos, whose catchy ads are helping rack up impressive sales, are merely old Vauxhalls. Malaysian Protons are just old Mitsuhishis.

Does any of this matter? Does the punter really care, as long as he gets a decent, reliable car? On the face of it; yes it does.

If you huy a Galaxy MPV, you've probably made a conscious decision to buy a Ford. Then you find out that your neighbour has just hought a Volkswagen Sharan and you're dismissive ("dour, stodgy Volkswagens. Look at the Beetle; what a joke! And besides they're Then somebody tells you it's the same car.

The only difference is that a little man in Portugal, where they're made, puts VW badges oo some and Ford badges on the others. If all this doesn't matter, then brand values a Holy Grail of marketing, a basic tenet of our capitalistic system - must be complete and utter baloney.
On second thoughts, brand values are

often complete and utter haloney, deter-mined either by history (which Henry Ford admitted was bunk) or by clever advertising. They ofteo do not reflect the quality of the product. A Ford is just a car, just as a VW is a car, and just as a Daewoo is an old car.

Oh well, at least I know where to go shop-





Spot the difference: the new Mazda 121 (top) is nothing more and nothing less than a Ford Fiesta (above) with another badge and a few minor changes

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road test Jeep Grand Cherokee



and Rover should worry. Britain's 4x4 maker thought it Lhad broken free from the pack of Japanese off-roaders. by pitching its new Range Rover further up-market than any off-roader had ever ventured. Then, along comes the leep Grand Cherokee from the USA. No funny Japanese name, no bull-bars, just a smart new car from the only off-roader maker that can compete with Land Rover.

Jeep's existing Cherokee has already proved a hig hit with those who would otherwise lead to a Land Rover.

with those who would otherwise look to a Land Rover Discovery or something Japanese. The Grand is a higger. smoother, more modern and more expensive version of the Cherokee idea, but at £28,995 it's still more than £4,000 cheaper than the cheapest Range Rover. It is not quite as new as it seems, having been launched in 1992, but is only now available with right-hand drive.

Automatic transmission comes as standard (the forthcoming turbodiesel version will be a manual), and for the most part you just select Drive and let the Jeep get on with it. I'd prefer it if the transmission didn't change up so soon during normal driving - the engine feels as though it is labouring - hut the upshot is that engine noise seldom intrudes.

A viscous coupling in the transmission means that the Grand Cherokee behaves as a rear-wheel-drive car most of the time, with power being diverted to the front wheels automatically as the rears lose their grip. It makes for easy, fail-safe handling, hacked up by an absorbent ride over bumps, and smooth (if imprecise) steering.

Why favour a Grand Cherokee over a Range Rover? The Jeep gives a similar blend of attributes, and rather more stylish looks, for less money. There's also the possible kudos of knowing that European-market Grands are built at the Steyr-Dalmier-Puch factory in Austria, alongside the indestructible Mercedes-Benz G-wagen, So what's the snag? Plastic wood on the dashboard,

exposed for its true self by having "Jcep" and "SRS" (indicating an airbag) moulded into it. Like I said, it's cheaper than a Range Rover. Butz well worth the saving. plastic wood or not.

John Simister

Specifications

Jeep Grand Cherokee 4.0 Limited, £28,995. Engine, 3960cc, six cylinders, 174bhp at 4600rpm. Four-speed automatic gearbox, four-wheel drive. Top speed 112mph, 0-60 in 9.9 seconds. Fuel consumption 18-23mpg.

Isuzu Trooper 3.2 V6 Citation LWB, £24,799. Land Rover Oiscovery 3.9 V8 ES, £28,900. Mitsubishi Shogun 3.5 V6 SE 5-door, £36,079. Range Rover 4.0 VB, £33,350. Toyota Landcruiser VX 4.5, £39,549.

When you're buying a second-hand Mercedes, read the service book

By James Ruppert

business a good image makes life a lot easier. And in the case of Mercedes, it makes the German car a sensible and safe, if expensive used buy. For a car that in its native land leads a double life as the nation's favourite taxi, you might think that image would be hard to come by. But not a bit of it. All the qualities that are required to keep a Hackney carriage on the road - reliability, comfort and solidity - are standard features on the Mercedes, especially the medium-sized models like the W123 and its successor, the E class. Not opulent like the huge S class, or remotely sporty like the SLs, these models won't ever let you down. With the arrival of the new E class, there has never been a better time to consider one of these classy saloons.

The W123, also referred to as the 200 series, lasted 10 years, staying in production from 1976 to 1986, although used examples are set to be with us well into the next century. Build quality on these cars was nothing short of remarkable. Everything about them is heavy, from the minimum 3000 pound kerb weight to the Fort Knox doors - and, it has to be said, the rock hard seats. Firmness is part of the

Mercedes interior experience. One flick of the precise switchgear proves that the flimsiest thing on board is the driver. Not surprisingly there is a sixth digit on the mileometer to cope with the inevitable multi thousand mileage. So heware owners who lie about the true mileage, or the car's previous life as a private

Agricon .

Hart Ch

When it comes to choosing a model, the 200 is slow. the 230E pleasant and the six-cylinder 280E the best.

mage. In the used-car Diesels are deservedly popular, but are painfully slow. TE estate models are the most up-market of load luggers and easily eclipse the common Volvo.

The W124, more commonly called the E class, carried on from where it's predecessor left off, as a relaxing, sophisticated and prestigious package. It was a big improvement, with more modern styling, lighter bodies and hetter performance. The range steadily grew to include more engine options. ABS braking was

attention is the Mercedes' only enemy and then things will start to go expensively worry about, in theory.



standardised and owners sonality on the cars by ordering "Sportline" special equipment. Further model upgrades occurred in 1992, when the driver's airbag was standardised and new 24-valve six-cylinder engines were installed. Once again the 230E is the best budget model, but six cylinders on the 260 and 300

make even more sense. Buying a middleweight Mercedes like this only requires that you do one thing: read the service book. It there isn't one, worry. An £1,500 to £2,000 in quite E series with a patchy history remarkable condition. The is hest left alone. You can be most you will pay is £5,000 more lenient with the older : for a 1986 TE estate unless W123, but there must be evi- the genuine mileage is spec-

wrong. Always buy an automatic, hut don't pick an unwise beige, dull or watery colour scheme which looks awful and can knock hundreds off the resale value. Sunroof and alloy wheels also make selling a Merc on even easier. So if the W123/4 you like looks pristine. drives quietly and has a history then there is nothing to

In practice, I stumbled could stamp their own per- across perbaps the most remarkable testament to the Mercedes marque when I visited a friend and his recently acquired W123. Parked in a field for a year, it had a patchy history and poor prospects. My friend bought it for £250 and inwesticaway. After a minor service, a new battery and a steam clean, it runs and drives like a two-year-old

despite the 120,000 miles. Maybe he was lucky, but there are plenty of similar cars advertised at around dence (lots of receipts) that tacularly low. The trick is the last few owners were avoiding the ones that have

recently been retired from

the mini cab circuit. Looking for E-class cars that I could believe in. I visited Western Mercedes Benz in Edinburgh. They had a 300E for £11,495 with the ideal specifications of an automatic gearbox and alloy wheels. It was a two-owner example with full service history, and mileage a careful 75,000. Down south, Dick Lovett had another 1988 E Class, 230 TE estate. Seven seats, automatic and air conditioning, almost perfect, for a reasonable £12,995. At Brunswick in Croydon £32,995 could get last year's E320 with all mod cons and a tiny 9,000 mileage.

For cost-effective Mercedes shopping you have to consider private sellers or specialists. At Kenton in north London there was a good selection of E-class cars. Their diesel estates started at £10,395 for a 1987 model and tose to £15,995 for a 1990 300E 24-valve with leather and service history. There was even a 1983 280SE at £4,995.

For something more unusual, Stadium Cars in Glasgow had a tarted up, F registered 300E at a mere £9,995. The good news was a full Mercedes service history, but not everyone would appreciate its body kit, even if it is a factory approved AMG add on. An E class, or in fact any Mercudes, will always locks better without any adornment. Right car, nice price, wrong

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money

Investments with Eastern promise

Clifford German looks at some funds with a ven for Japanese markets

Japanese shares will eventually return to favour. It is a basic assumption of most fund managers. While New York and London are close to all-time highs. and the Tokyo market has rallied by about 25 per cent since it bottomed out last summer. Japan is barely 50 per cent of its all-time high, says Ed Merner, of Atlantis Fund Management, the independentily-owned. Guernseybased managers.

The only question is when, and there have been several false dawns already. But no fewer than three funds are raising money this month. For the first time in years a rehound in investment by Japanese companies is coinciding with a further round of public sector spending on the infrastructure. the current Japanese companies competitive and profitable at home and abroad, comdouble over the next two years, and there is scope for increased consumer spending, according to Gartmore Investment Trust Management's

managing director, Michael Wrobel. After keeping a low profile on Japan for five years Gartmore is launching its Select Japanese Investment Trust to purallel its unit trust. It hopes to raise up to £75m at 100p a share with one free warrant for every five shares. The minimum subscription is £1,000 and the initial expenses are enpped at 4.5 per cent with an annual charge of

l per cent. It will invest in 60 to 70companies with the initial emphasis on smaller and

is inevitable that medium-sized companies Japan will return to in the domestic manufaceconomic growth and turing, electronics and real estate sectors. Mr Wrobel is hullish about demand for personal computers and mobile phones where take-up is well below US levels.

Atlantis is hoping to raise \$150m through an approved investment trust to invest in Japan for long-term capital growth, favouring healthcare. leisure and media sectors and some technology companies. It will avoid banks and utilities. The minimum subscription is £1,500, investors will receive one free warrant for every five shares, the initial charge is likely to be around 4 per cent and the management charge

1.5 per cent a year. Although Japan funds are not fully eligible as PEP investments, up to £1.500 can be held as part of a £6,000 general PEP. Investors can ask their exchange rate has made PEP manager to huy can transfer shares they huy in the public offer to pany earnings are set to their PEP within 42 days of the allotment.

Meanwhile. General Accident Life has lannched a guaranteed growth bond to invest in the Tokyo market over the 66 months to November 2001. Investors will receive the growth in the Nikkei 300 index on 95 per cent of their investment and a guaranteed return of 125 amount subscribed.

and the minimum investearly investment bonus for applications received before 20 May.

> General Accident Life: 0500 100200 Gartmore: 0800 289336 Atlantis: 0800 448866

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FEAR OF **FINANCE** Clifford

German

Chort-term interest rates are still Oedging lower, but longer rates are starting to edge up. Interest rates offered on selected guaranteed income bonds have risen this week, according to brokers Baronworth; and annuity rates, which are driven by long-term interest rates. have increased again for the ninth

Annuity Bureau. This is welcome news to savers. but it has implications for horrowers. If you have been thinking of taking the plunge and fixing

five years, it is make your mind up time. In the last fortnight, three of the best five-year fixed rates have been withdrawn, and the cheapest current offer still available, accord- then. ing to brokers John Charcol, is Coventry Building Society's 6.79

per cent plus a 3 per cent fee.
There is no redemption penalty. week in a row, according to the but whichever way you slice it that works out at well over 7 per cent

over the five-year term. The fact is five-year mortgage to July 1997 from 3.99 per cent to money has been looking unsus- 3.59 per cent.

your mortgage costs for the next tainably cheap for some time. since the cost of funds for two years and more ahead started anticipating the near certainty of a Labour government in power by

But the mortgage war is not going to fizzle out. The battlefront has simply shifted to other fronts. Norwich & Peterborough in fact has almost simultaneously withdrawn its five-year fixed rate of 7.24 per cent and cut its fixed rate

Alliance & Leicester has come up with a new low one-year fixed month penalty for paying back

All rates are shown gross and are subject to change without notice.

within five years. Legal & General bas returned two main mortgage products. Guaranteed Gold and Flexible Reserve, from 6.95 per cent to 6.39

Both are variable rates, available through financial advisers, sales forces and over the phone cent on loans over £5,000.

from its direct sales department. Flexible Reserve allows borrowers rate of 1.65 per cent with a six to accelerate repayments at any time, and equally important, to borrow back the additional payments at any time. There are no to the fray by cutting the cost of its hidden fees and no penalties for

21 March 1996

early redemption. Other short-term borrowing. rates are also continuing to fall. The TSB this week has cut its personal loan rates by 2 per cent to 12.9 per cent APR on loans over through Legal & General's own £7,500 and by I per cent to 15.9 per

National Savings



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Future options

That don't break the bank. David Porter advises

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Until then the London stock market had been within spitting distance whether any of their shares feature of its all-time high. The last interest rate cut should have stabilised London shares for a bit longer. But that was completely overshadowed by plunging markets on Wall Street. London markets followed the US stock market fall causing investors to revise views on where they think shares will head now. A general election is looming - another damp-

Some may conclude that the negatives outweigh the positives - that shares are due for another dive. The hulls have had a good run. Over the past 12 months investors have seen the values of share portfolios soar. Over that time the FT-SE 100 index, comprising shares in Britain's or a "put option" giving the huyer largest companies, has risen almost 20 per cent.

Can investors lock in some profit so that if the bears gain the upper hand they do not lose all of their bard-earned gains? They could sell some shares. That takes nerve as they will lose out if the hullish noises from some quarters turn out to be right. As well as ruling ont any further capital gain they would also lose dividend income generated from the shares. Selling shares could of 550p over the past year. This also increase an investor's tax hurcould prompt some investors to den. Gains up to £6,000 in this tax take out a "put" option to guaranyear are exempt from capital gains tax. But if an investor is already close to breaching that limit before the end of the tax year on 5 April then any sales will probably incur

Traded options offer one possible Locking in a sale price at 750p answer to investors' prayers. Tony would cost 39p a share so the rock Hawes, manager of equity products bottom price that the investor can

he turmoil in global stock at the London International Finan-markets over the past two cial Futures and Options Exchange (Liffe) thinks they should feature in investors think about how to most investors' financial planning lock in gains without neces- toolkits. "Buying a 'put' option sarily dumping shares or trig-guarantees a minimum sale price on gering a liability to capital 68 of the most actively traded

First investors should look to see in the 68 on which options can be hought and sold. To do this they can either ring their stockhroker or examine the statistics pages of the Financial Times at the local library.

Principally, the 68 are the UK's largest quoted companies and range from supermarket group Asda to pharmaceuticals giant Zeneca.

Traded options are a hit complicated at first glance. That is why Liffe runs training courses up and down the country for investors. But for each of the 68 most traded shares there are two types of contract on offer: a "call option" giving the huyer a right to huy shares at a set price on a fixed future date; a right to sell shares at a specified price on a fixed date in the future. A contract would cover "put" and "call" options on lots of 1,000 in the 68, Like the shares they

shadow the price of a "put" or a "call" change daily. So now for some recent examples of how "put" options could he put to work. Take Barclays Bank shares, currently trading a little over 720p. They have risen strongly from a low tee a minimum sale price, Currently buying a put option at 700p (that expires mid-June) would cost 14p for each Barclays share, effectively locking the sale price at 686p 700p less the cost of option, 14p).

expect per Barclays share is 711p, although don't forget about the other cosis involved (see below). In the case of a "put" option the con-tract becomes worthless if at expiry the exercise price is below that prevailing on the shares in the stock

Take another good performing share over the past year - Zeneca. Shares in this drugs giant lead to be changing hands around 1,340p last Thursday. They have risen from a low of 840p in the past year. Locking in at 1,300p would cost 16p per share so the minimum guaranteed price that investors can expect at the end of the term in mid-April is 1,284p per Zeneca share. The cost of a "put" contract over 1,000 shares would he £160 (1,000 shares at the option price 16p) hut there would be a minimum £20 to £25). Stockbrokers normally charge a nominal sum of £1 to £2 on top for arranging each option contract.

At any stage during the fixed term, right up to the day of expiry. the option can he sold, hut investors would incur dealing costs. The other choice open to investors is to exercise the option to sell shares, although once again stockhroker dealing costs would he triggered.

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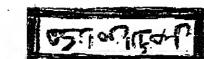
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Motor insurance myth hits the crash barrier

The demise of the knock-for-knock agreement has not dented insurers' profits as much as they feared. By Nigel Richardson

uch has been said and written over many years about the motor insurers' knock-forknock agreement, much of it untrue, often y motorists who had little understanding of how it worked or how it applied to them. The one feature always common to any debate on the subject was the insistence by insurers that the agreement worked in the best interests of the majority of motorists in that it helped to keep their premiums low. Even I was persuaded this was the case and have been known to use the argument in its support. It is only now, following the withdrawal of the agreement, that insurers have discovcred how untrue this argument had hecome.

The knock-for-knock was simply an agreement hetween most motor insurance companies and Lloyd's syndicates. If their clients were involved in an accident they would avoid considerable litigation expense and delay in settling by paying their own client's damage claim, if covered by the policy, without seeking any recovery from the negligent party or their insurer.

The agreement worked reasonably well in the days of the old tariff companies, a tariff that required members to charge exactly the same premium. The tariff had the effect of producing similar client bases for participating insurers, especially the ratio of comprehensive to non-comprehensive policies. This was crucial for the success of the agreement as it relied on the helief that over a number of claims the insurers' liability aspect would be evened out, very much a case of swings and roundabouts.

Such an agreement between insurers would have gone unnoticed by clients had it not been for the no claims bonus. Insurers have always been careful to emphasise that it is a no claims bonus not a no blame bonus. Far 100 often insurers would delete the bonus if they had settled the claim under the agreement. whereas it should still have been allowed if their client was not to blame.

The maximum permitted bonus under the tariff system was at one stage only 10 per cent (and protected no claims bonuses had not even been thought of) so

not argue. To others, however, it was like showing a red rag to a buil. It was not so much the extra premium that annoyed them as the damage to their pride. How

dare an insurer imply their driving skills were suspect? Those that did complain were generally told to establish they were not to blame. It was not, after all, in the interest of the insurer to establish liability as by doing so they could lose 10 per cent of the next premium. It is not surprising that motorists took such a dislike to the agreement despite being told it worked

in their best interest. Had the agreement been applied correctly as far as bonus was concerned their clients would never have known of its existence. Those who took the wise decision to insure through a broker generally fared better. Generally unknown to them their hroker would have pressed the insurer into allowing the bonus where it was justified in doing so.

Certainly there was a period in my own career where one of my key tasks was to broke renewals where there

some clients, happy that the claim had been paid, did had been claims. Frequently I was successful in persuading reluctant insurers to allow the no claims bonus where the claim had been dealt with under the agreement. Merely a study of the circumstances of the incident and the nature of damage to the insured vehicle was generally sufficient to determine liability.

The tariff system itself and the knock-forknock concept collapsed under the impact of competition from new insurers who refused to be party to any trade agreements. This provided them the freedom to target preferred classes of husiness, the result being that over a number of years insurers built differing profiles of husiness, in particular the ratio of comprehensive to non-

omprehensive clients. The main weakness of the old knock-for-knock hecame evident it had led to comprehensive clients subsidising those who opted for reduced cover, while insurers with mainly comprehensive clients were in turn subsidising those who wrote mainly third party business.

To illustrate the problem take the incident where a motorist insured for third party is negligent in colliding with a motorist insured comprehensively. The third party insurer pays nothing to their client, the comprehensive insurer settles his client's claim and is unable to make a recovery from the negligent driver's insurer because of the agreement. Had the liability been the other way around the comprehensive insurer would have had to pay the cost of the damage to both vehicles. So the comprehensive insurer was always having to pay his own damage and in addition the damage to any third party vehicle where their policyholder was negligent. Meanwhile the third party insurer never paid any accidental damage except maybe under an uninsured loss claim.

Once a predominately comprehensive insurer had finally taken the bold step of cancelling their knock-for-knock agreements they were often surprised to find that they were actually recovering the majority of the accidental damage payments they were making to their clients without any appreciable cost in doing so. Those insurers who favoured third party risks were obviously not so keen to end an agreement that had been highly profitable for them. They were now having to pay their policyholders' correct sbare of the overall

The result has been a rating change that is now far fairer to the majority of motorists, those that purchase comprehensive cover. Under the agreement third party premiums were only about half of the equivalent comprehensive rate. Today that has risen to around 75 per cent. The change has been achieved as much by comprehensive premiums falling as by any increase in the third party

Any other change? Well yes, surprise surprise, predominantly third party insurers are now looking for a more balanced account by attempting to attract more comprehensive clients and comprehensive insurers are more inclined to consider limited cover policies now that premiums for nem nave risen.

So are we seeing the beginning of a return to the days of the old tariff where large insurers all write similar portfolios of business? Perhaps that is wishful thinking in a market dominated by a lust for market share rather than any sound or logical underwriting practice. But at least the myth about the agreement acting in the best interest of the motorist has at last been laid to rest.

Nigel Richardson is motor schemes manager at the RAC

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Growth stocks may be potentially the most rewarding, but they also carry a higher risk of failure - and you have to spot the real growth stocks from the shooting stars, companies that fizzle strongly only to burn out quickly

here is no greater competition between investment practitioners than that herween those who favour growth shares and those who engage in socalled "value" investing. The forshares that are experiencing rapid growth in earnings. The lat-ter say that a much better approach is to look for those that are selling at such a low price relative to earnings, asset value or cash flow - that the only way

they can go is up.

These two approaches stand at the twin ends of the investment spectrum. Most investors incline, by choice or by temperament, to one approach or to the other. Both like to call on important figures in the history of lovestment theory. Value investors, for example, pay allegiance to Ben Graham, an American academic turned investment manager.
Graham was a classical scholar

who liked nothing better than reading the small print in balance sbeets. He was the first man to turn stock market research into a reputable activity, and io a series of books and monographs laid down a series of guidelines for value-based investing which are still required reading for serious students. His book, Security Analysis, remains the standard textbook for professional analysis and fund managers.

Growth stock investors, by contrast, pay homage to a different pantheon of heroes. Perhaps the first to establish a lasting reputation for his methods was another American, T Rowe mer say that the key to making. Price. His name still adorns a money consistently is buying number of mutual funds in the number of mutual funds in the United States, In more recent times, and in this country, Jim Slater is one well-known investor who has popularised his own version of growth stock theory.

Given the millions of words that have been expended by proponents of these two schools of investing to prove the superiority of their chosen methods, anyone who tries to summarise the differences in a few lines is liable to be accused of distortion and simplification. The divisions are not perbaps quite as deep as those between Eurosceptics and Europhiles, but they are not far Crudely summarised, how-

ever, the kiod of shares that get growth stock investors excited are small, fast growing companies whose earnings rise steadily over a period of years. By definition, they tend to have low dividend yields - growth stocks are too busy growing to bave much time for dividends - and high price/earnings ratios. Most of their value is represented by future potential, rather than past achievement or current performance. Investors who can find



JONATHAN DAVIS INVESTMENTS

and jump aboard such a company while it is still on its growth trajectory can often make spectacular returns.

What excites a value investor. by contrast, are shares that, for whatever reason, are selling at what looks like a cheap price, when compared with their own recent performance or that of the rest of the stock market. A good stock for a value investor is one with a high yield and low price/earnings ratio. Best of all is a company that has plenty of assets but which is currently out of favour with the prevailing fashion in the stock marker Those who bave the courage to buy this kind of share at the height of its unpopularity can

also make a lot of money. Which strategy is hetter? The arguments bave raged for years. In practice, a lot depends on two things: Firstly, what sort of risks the investor is looking to take. Growth stocks may be potentially the most rewarding, but they also carry a higher risk of failure -and you also have to be able to

spot the real growth stocks from the shooting stars, companies that fizzle strongly, only to burn out equally quickly. Value investors by contrast tend to he much more risk-averse.

Secondly, what is happening to

the market and the economy as a whole. The early stages of an upturn in the economic cycle tend to produce a raft of small companies whose products or services are much in demand, and whose earnings are therefore growing fast. The question is whether they can sustain that growth when the cycle turns down, or when the market itself moves from a bear to a bull phase. The best time to find value stocks is when gloom in both the stock market and the economy is all around - as it was in the mid 1970s. Then you can buy blue chip companies on earnings or asset value multiples that are but a fraction of their historical average. In markets like today's, when optimism is

high and interest rates have

fallen sharply, that is less easy,

States now claims to have new and definitive insights into the timeless dehate between value and growth investors. According to the Wall Street weekly magazine. Barron's, a fund manager called Jim O'Shaughnessy has gained exclusive access to the vast Standard & Poor's database of stock market performance in the 45 years since 1951. He has used it to test which stock-picking strategies have produced the best results over that period. The full results will not be

published until the summer, but these are some of his conclusions, as reported by Barron's. In general, they tend to support the view that value investing is the better bet over the long term, but with some notable exceptions. Bear in mind that the data refers exclusively to Wall Street, though the results in London would almost certainly be little

· Popular stocks are a surefire way to lose money. If you had bought those shares with the highest prices relative to eash flow, sales or assets, you would have seriously underperformed the stock market as a whole in

 Buying shares based solely on their price/earnings ratio is also a good way to underperform the market as a whole. Shares that have either unusually high or

A research study in the United unusually low p/e ratios provide no guarantee of exceptional performance; if anything, rather the opposite.

What does seem to work well is huying the shares that have done best in the previous year. Among big companies, those that were the worst performers in the previous year continue to underperform as a group. In general, says Mr O'Shaughnessy, all the best stock-picking strategies he found were based, in part at least, on finding shares which displayed strong relative strength (ie, they had done better than the market

as a whole in the recent past). The best results of all seem to come from combining value and growth criteria - for example, picking those shares with above average recent perfor-mance whose market value was also low relative to the company's sales. The main draw-back: finding companies that meet these criteria is often hard

The other drawback with such historical analyses is that - as it rightly says in the small print of all financial advertisements these days - past performance is no guide to future performance. What Mr O'Shaughnessy's research does underline, however, is that following fashion is one certain way to secure

Abstract nightmares

Michael Peters learned about the art market the hard way. By Corinne Simcock

Michael Peters OBE, 55, is founder and managing partner of Identica, a "new wave" brand design, corporate identity, innovations and multimedia consultancy with clients including Unilever, NatWest, United Distillers, Mercury One-2-One, Finnair and

After graduating from Yale with a Master of Fine Arts degree in 1964, he went on to set up Michael Peters and Partners, which became the largest design firm in the world and was floated in 1983. But he yearned for a smaller business again and in 1992 he formed Identica, which has since achieved a fee income of more than £3m and employs

ears ago, when I was at art school in America. I studied under a veryfamous painter called Joseph. Bauhaus, the most influential institute of architecture and design in Germany. This man had a very great influence on me.

It was Albers who introduced me to the Italian painter Matta, and I became a great lover of his work too.

I always wanted to own some of their paintings, but as a student, of course, it was completely out of my reach. It wasn't until the Eighties that I was able to fulfil that particular ambition and acquire works of art by both of them.

By then, like many designers. I had become an avid collector. Over the years I had invested mainly in the work of British painters and craftsmen. It is a passion of mine to spot young artists and designers and give them some support.

But when an abstract by Matta became. available at auction, I simply couldn't resist £16,000. it. He wasn't much in demand at the time as he was known to very few people, and I managed to buy it for £10,000.

I felt such a sense of achievement, owning something I had always admired as a my collection. .

youngster. To have a Matta in my bands felt like one of the greatest gifts in the world. It was like having a new haby. This painting made marvellous use of colour and form, and every day I looked at it I saw something

My golden rule has always been never to sell anything, because my collection is very important to me. Just as everybody knows what they were doing when Kennedy was shot, my collection represents to me the chronology of my life.

But the painting was about 7ft by 6ft, and it is fair to say that it took up rather a large amount of the wall. To do it justice required a lot of available space, and when I moved offices a year later there really was no place for it, so I decided with great regret that I should sell it.

To my surprise, when I auctioned it in Albers. He was an emigré from the 1989, it sold for £16,000. I was amazed. hecause I don't buy art to sell for the profit. However, it had turned our to be a terrific investment and I was extremely happy.

At least, I was bappy until 1992 wheo a catalogue arrived through my door for a big art auction in New York. There, in colour, Had I chec was my Matta painting with a reserve price of \$200,000.

My first thought was 'Shit'. I was aston-

order to be certain I compared it with colour photographs which I take of all additions to my collection. Sure enough, it was the same painting.

Lsubsequently learned that the picture the big collectors are doing, but 1 just had sold for \$235,000. By this time I was a gobsmacked. It was hard to swallow that mistake I hope I will never make again, and a painting could sell for that price when only three years earlier I had sold it for sioce.

As you can imagioe, I was mightily peeved. It was a very great error on my part. If only I had stuck to my guns and not sold something which formed part of an investment.



But where I really went wrong was in not it, and he committed to sponsoring the being savvy to the market. Having decided to sell, I should have done some research, because - like fashion - painters go in and

Had I checked it out I would have discovered that in the early Nineties, Matta had become a big discovery. After all, by that

time be was dead. isbed, absolutely astonisbed.

Apart from feeling sick and fed up, it taught me a very great lesson. If you want to make the maximum return on your investment, make sure you research the

market properly. It's easy to spot trends if you watch what I have continued to invest in the arts ever

The first rule is to buy something that will sit happily on your wall. Personally 1 don't have to be an expert: just put the couldn't live with having something that money into what you really like. was not to my taste simply because it was

Don't be put off by what others say about

artist, if you can afford it, by having more

than one painting. On the whole I'm a hoarder, and I hope that one day my children will have a very nice collection to hang on their walls.

But buying a fine art collection is a very exciting hobby that can be translated - if you so desire - into a terrific return on your

capital. It is a great pleasure to own a beautiful painting which day hy day is increasing in value, providing you don't mind the emotional upset of getting rid of a piece you like

to turn it into money. In this country we are fortunate to have a richness of art that is like an untapped oil

well of creativity. There is a wealth of young talent around. and you can spend anything from a couple of hundred pounds to thousands. You

If you're patient you should eventually see a return; even if it's only a few hundred

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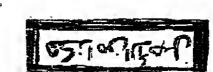
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money

Can pay, will pay, but on the right valuation, please

Council tax bills are due to rise next month, but will still be based on 1991 valuations, often well above current prices. Paul Gosling reports

sands of householders in London and the South-east waitng for their council tax bills will be paying too much - because the Government refuses to carry out a revaluation of homes. Council tax liability is based on April 1991 values - and since then house prices have fallen more dramatically in the Southeast than in the North. Not only would many

properties now be in a lower band if the valuations were done again, hut local authorities in the Southeast would receive more government grant, reducing the overall funding hurden on householders. While the Labour Party has criticised the current system, it too refuses to pledge itself to undertaking a revaluation or say what alternative to the council tax it would put in place in

Council tax levels will

undreds of thou- rise next month by an average of 6 per cent in Eng-land. The highest bills will be paid by owners of homes in Liverpool valued at more than £320,000. Their tax bill will be £2,012.92. The largest increase will be in Wellingborough - where the tax is up by 58 per cent, to £499.50 for an average property - although this reflects the previously very low tax. Several authorities in Scotland and Wales are raising taxes by more than 20 per cent, to pay for the replacement of two-tier councils with new unitary

> But council tax bills are distorted by use of 1991 property values. Figures from Halifax Building Society show that while average property prices in London have dropped by 15 per cent over the last five years. the figure is 9 per cent for the North, while in Scotland they have actually risen on average by 8 per cent. Within these large

authorities.



The Mersey pound: Come next month's rises, Liverpool will be the site of the highest council tax bills

regions there are much larger from variations, with prices falling in London's Docklands by 30 per cent, while increasing in Barnes by 40 per cent. Prices also rose quickly during Northern Ireland's ceasefire, but councils there are funded introduced three years ago. by the even older rates system, using 1975 prices.

Local authorities admit it is unfair that they have to hill people on the basis of out-ofdate figures. Stephen Lord, finance assistant secretary at the Association of District Councils, says: "It is like basing income tax on what you earned five years ago." The Association of Metro-

politan Authorities has asked the Government to carry out a revaluation. "It is completely bonkers that the Government has no plans for a revaluation," argues Martin Pilgrim, finance under secretary at the AMA.

The Department of the Environment says a revaluation will not be carried out for the foreseeable future. The Labour Party argues that the council tax system is unfair. with insufficient bands to reflect variations in property prices. But a spokesman for Frank Dohson, Labour's environment spokesman, said properties if it won the gen-

A revaluation would lead to redistribution of government grant to local authorities, paying more to the South-east and less to the North - and this could well involve a shift of funds away

Labour-supporting areas. Without a revaluation the anomalies are likely to grow worse There were almost a million appeals against property valuations when the council tax was and all but 3,000 of these

have now been decided. . But new appeals can only be lodged if a property has changed hands within the last six months, or where property values have been affected by what is called "a change in material circumstances" to the extent that a property would be placed in a different council tax band. The fall in the housing market since 1991

is not grounds for appeal. Properties can be revalued upwards if an extension is built, or downwards if an existing extension is demolished. Adaptations for a person with disabilities could cause a property to be revalued in either direction.

A new road, supermarket, factory, housing estate or sewage works near a bome are likely to be successful grounds for an appeal. So too might be a permanent change of flightpath from an airport. Subsidence, particularly caused by mining, is another accepted

Where properties are upwardly revalued this only comes into effect when the home is next sold. Owners are not required to notify the valuation office of changes which: increase a property's value, but if asked for details these must, by law, be provided.

appeals lodged now where there is a belated recognition of a past error rather than a change of circumstance. In practice, however, they will do so, hackdating them

have no obligation to consider

where the application is accepted, This is likely to lead to the local authority issuing a rebate, plus interest on the sum. There is a right of appeal, to a valuation tribunal, against a valuation officer's decision in the event of a change in circumstances, but not where a factor was previously ignored.

In one recent case in Boston, Lincolnshire, local surveyor Thomas Balderstone acted on behalf of a bungalow owner who had overlooked a clause in the deeds of the property which restricted its use to local farm labourers. The valuation officer has now revalued the property at twothirds of full market value.

While many homeowners use surveyors, estate agents or solicitors to represent them in requesting a revaluation, this is not necessary. Indeed, many surveyors decline to take on the cases. Mike Cowley, a surveyor based in Nuneaton, Warwickshire, said: "My advice is for people to have a would not save them any

Citizens' Advice Bureaux will assist people to prepare revaluation applications, and addresses of local valuation officers can be found in the telephone directory.

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The Crest of a trading wave

In just over three months, a new share-settlement system will move into place on the stock market. Its impact will be revolutionary, and investors would be wise to be prepared. Fraser Gardiner investigates

ention Crest and most of us probably think of toothpaste. However, investors buying shares are set to hear a lot more about Crest, the new electronic system for settling payments for sales and purchases of shares.

Considerable changes in the share settlement system bave been implemented since an electronic system called Taurus was abandoned in 1993. The old account-trading system, which divided the year into twoor three-week-long "accounts" at the end of which the net balances owing were paid, bas been abandoned. It allowed plenty of time for private investors and trustees to deliver stock certificates to the market and settle accounts. But share deals are now completed on a rolling-settlement basis, allowing five business days to settle an account. Once Crest is established, the settlement period is likely to be further reduced to three days. This will make it even more difficult for investors dealing on an advisory basis who currently hold shares in their own names, and in particular for those not using a nominee service that provides an administrative role in delivering stocks into the Crest system.

So what are the likely consequences of Crest? Under Crest all sbare dealings will be "dematerialised". Put simply, much of the cumbersome movement of paper will be removed and it is expected that the majority of shares will be registered electronically. Those who wish to hold certificates may continue to do so, but if a holding is sold the stockbroker handling the sale must dematerialise the stock in order to deliver it electronically to the market through the Crest system, adding to costs.

Crest will operate typically through stockbrokers and banks, which will be members of Crest and may also provide a nominee service. The cost of this service will vary, but in many cases may be provided free of charge by stockbrokers. Share deals will be settled electronically, with title being confirmed by regular statements from the investor's Crest member, in much the same way as bank customers receive statements showing movements and closing balances in their bank accounts.

Many brokers will already be encouraging clients to use a nominee service as it resolves any problems relating to delivery in the future. and enables a smooth transition when Crest's new electronic dealing system starts White.



in July. But the radical changes that are taking place should force others to review their current arrangements. A key factor will be continue holding on to share certificates; alternatively they may be able to deal more quickly and cheaply through Crest members. Further protection is provided by stockbrokers regulated by the Securities &

Futures Authority. Crest will have a large impact on investors and the financial services industry alike. It is a similar change to that which took place in the banking world with the demise of the pass-book. With the computerisation of settlement systems it will become increasingly difficult to deal using share certificates, so investors should review their options. There has never been a better time for investors to examine their position and consider how effective this will be

Fraser Gardiner is a director of Bell, Lawrie

The Crest options to consider

Stockbrokers regulated by the SFA

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Advantages:

Disadvantages:

Management costs

Designated nominee service

- Ability to dematerialise certificates and deliver stocks into Crest
- Dividends can be mandated to investor/bank or collected by Stockbrokers regulated by the SFA
- Disadvantages No direct evidence of ownership Shares held by a third party possible delay if changing advisers Us-designated Nominee Service
- investor has some say Advantages: Nominee goods client holdings
- Managed Portfolio Service Ability to dematerialise certificates and deliver stocks into Crast
- Dividends collected by nomines Stockbrokers regulated by the SFA

- Invests in investment trusts or
- Shares held by a third party -Services: Nom services, portfolio reviews, possible delay if changing advisers
- Dividends may be delayed valuations, tax and divident **Full Discretionary Service** For high net-worth individuals Regulated by the SFA
- Disadvantages: Fund manager makes decisions Day to day investment decision: within an agreed strategy out of your hands
- Services: Nominee and custodial Managerial costs incurred services, portfolio reviews, valua-Shares Registered In Own Name tions, tax and dividend schedules Client has final say
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 - Flexibility in selecting brokers Disadvantages:
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 - · No supporting tax documents

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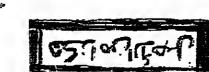
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Edinburgh's junkie underbelly.

Ryan Gilbey

THEATRE

outer-generated animation feature and the in the latest comedy by Nigel Williams about best modern fairy-tale since Tim Burton's The ... the madness that is the TV chat show. James

Trainspotting Danny Boyle's kinetic take on directs a quarter of performers celebrating lust. Irvine Welsh's novel has the kick of good desire and omniverous sexuality. Bold stuff and speed: it's a breathless whirlwind tour of definitely not for the prudish. Drill Hall, W1: Twelve Angry Men Sidney Lumet turned this: Heat The leanest of plots – a cop (Al Pacino) engrossing backstage courtroom drama into hunts a hood (Robert De Niro), yet this is a masterly work which confirms Michael stage in this West End-bound production. Mann's status as America's premiere auteur. | Theatre Royal, Bristol

David Benedict

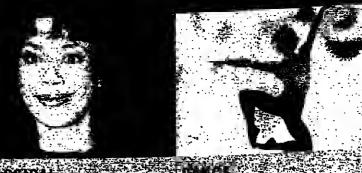
EXHIBITIONS

Symbols for 51 in 1951, painters, sculptors and designers were commissioned to produce pieces to characterise the brave new world. Here is work. by Moore, Epstein, Chadwick and the Skylon. Royal Festival Hall, SE1, to 21 Apr.

Spellbound Six artists and four filmmakers were asked to examine the crossover between fine art and cinema - an inspired move in which works by Hirst, Rego, Paolozzi and Greenaway are most notable. Hayward Gallery, London SEI; to 5 May Cézanne (above) The final room, with the Large Bathers from Philadelphia, is one of the all-time epiphanies of gallery-going. Tate, SW1; to 28 Apr

POP

critics' choice



ELASSICAL

The Magnetic Fields (above) Thoughtful pop with soft keyboard melodies. New album Get Lord is a winner. Water Rats. London NW1, 29 Mas. Cast Liverpool's back to basics favoured sons get sweaty with their jarglesome songs. Present htt. Walkaway' is more upbeat than their usual offerings, thought. Cocky post Dasis troupe Mansum support. Forum, London NW5. (0171-344-0044): tonight. Lenny Kravitz The geoze with the wild drese focks, leather pages and flouricy tures is back, to margle a few more expensive gulfass.

Wembley Arena (0181-900 1234): tonight—playing Ravet h. V. Landon Ravet has a playing R

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Arts and entertainment listings

FILM

WEST END

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■ REMEMBERT (15) Mc1 Gibson directs and stars (146 m beer Fart 1225, 4.10, 7.45) ■ ELEMO (15) Martin Scotscoe's book at Lass Vices stars Robert De Niro Empire Lete Sq 12.36, 4.15, 3.00, 11.47 [Soil, Tosacher) High Sai (1401, 3.20, 7.20, 11.10, Sun 12.56, 4.15, 6.10) [2] 20 (4.3) (1.6) [B GERENBER [1.5] French-language adapta-tion of a Right Bendell thriller. Harmories's 50(M-2)(5-5-2), 8-25. Mod J. Story Cong. [20, 5.50), 15] (5-2). Tookerham Count Bond MGH [26, 4.25, 719, 5.35]

PTGEO (25) Victoriuse, tale about basele-depart tags. Vic. W. Suzz. Centr. 1250, 320, 335, 435 5.55 s.20 ● 0ESPERADO (18) Western horninge stamme Antonio Bandera: Womer West East 2.00,

■ BEVIL IN A BLUE DRESS (15) A redund int WW2 seteran accepts a stranger's offer of work. Damon St MCM 1.25, 3.55, 6.25, 6.45.

FARIER OF THE BRIDE II (1971) Store Martin repress his factored Lather ride. Trocalero 16 (1) 700 (1970) 14: AJ 7JH 920

THE FLOWER OF MY SECRET (15) Almodowar continues me theme of a tracefed woman surrounded by bettering relatives. Continue 120 (Salt 5-40, 648, 8,9)

Theories 1.20 (Salt 5-40, 648, 8,9) FRENCH TWIST (GAZON MAUDIT) [18] Farce

■ FREICH WAST (6.200 MARRIST) [18) Face about a philandering herband, a disease-fied wife and her glettered Peccadift MCM [140, 416, 145, 6.21] (140 m Meccanine 5.20, 0.00, 8.40 m GET MOT [140, 416, 145, 6.21] (140 m Meccanine 5.20, 0.00, 8.40 m GET MORTY [15] John Travolio stars as a loan shark who becomes movined in the film business. Empire Larc Sq. 113, 745, 6.15, 8.45, 14.50 m [140, 6.40] (140 m Morne Hill 2.20, 4.35, 6.31, 9.10, Installer Mill [1.20 m [141, 141, 140] [10] [120 m [140, 6.40] [140 GOLDERSTE | 12 | The latest James Bond yarr. A know Measuring 2.15 (5.40, 8.51) LA HARRE (13) Early long ethnic teenage ten-sions. Planton St. May V 150, 419, 653, 850. HEAT (15) At Pagno and Babon Lie Nico

in Main compressionals (Inter-culor) 19/14 (24) 440, 5,24, fligmen flow Dat 110 (3,25, 440, 7,00 (8,20, 10,3), 11,50 THE HORSEMAN ON THE ROOF (15) Epic 19th century adventure starring Johnston Binoche. JEFFREY (18) Romantia comedy about a troung gay man and love in the *** Shafter-bar, the MeM 240 535 \$50 (1.10)(\$4)

BRAND (1974) Polon Williams becomes trapped in a real-life board-game. Tocadon Mod. (205, 220, 430, role; Blamer Best End 1240 3 05, 520,800

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D LEAVING LAS VERES (18) Negolas Cage as an alcoholic, the resolver MGM 140, 4 m. 6.25, 8.59 MGM Succe Control 40, 440, 6.25, 8.50 Garner West End 3 15, 5.50, 8.50 11.15 ● AUTILE PROCESS (U) Adaptation of the Frances Hodgeon Burrett children's story Transfers Mod I 240, 220–425, Wirner 00 × End (226, 240, 420

● LOCH NELS (1975) Ted Danson stary Warner ● US INSERRIES (12) Adaptation of Victor Happy Casser rotted Most Sugar Contre 110, 415 7.20

m no provident in Utility Stone's hoppy. Two earliers Mis II (2004 450, 800 Oxford Har-rier's Set 12 - 5 438, 848, Sun 1,45 725 Blamer B. 2 For A (2.19, 4-10) is 10, 10.20

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of Yourn Lake, with the voices of John Closes and Jack Palance, Barbican Cinema

A TOY \$1000 (PC)) Computer summated extra-■ TO SIORT [PC]) Computer summated extra-againza about a boy's toy collection that are dumped in linear of a new-langued robot. Burbasin Cinema 200, 40% b [5, 8,30] (Mon. Lee, Sy 12-9), 315, 554-56 [11,10] [Satt). (Marin Marble, both 1.15, 3.45, 6.15, 8.45). © BRUSPOTTHE (18) Adaptation of living Welsh's smash-hit novel about drugs, Hay-market 16741 (20), 3-45 o. [10, 8-40; Rustulant CRA MGM 20), 4-25, 7 (10, 9-40; Rustulant Beet End 1250, 310, 510 7 20, 9-40, [215am

● BLYSSES GAZE (PG) Starring Harvey Ken-tel. Renew 1235 4.01, 7.35 UNDERGROUND (15) Surreal business of Younglavia, Lumner, 12,55, 4,20, 7,45 Vingridavia, Lumere 12:55, 4:20, 7:45

■ THE USBAL SUSPECTS (18) Portuguis thriller

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Worter West End | Lundmehr WITHER TO EXPLICE 151 A group of women friends berate the lack of eligible men in Phoenic, Arizona. Triculation MCDF Sat Lemidiaght Warter West Faul 1, 20, 645
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3561, Shafhe-bury Ave MGM 836 (1879);
MGM Soyes Centre 437 (1994); Tell Ci Rd
Miffl (1904); The Michael (1904); All (1904);
The Minema (300 (1722); Oldon MGM 434 (1922);
The Minema (300 (1723); Oldon Mczzanine (1912); Oldon Mezzanine (1912); Oldon Mezzanine (1912); Oldon Mezzanine (1912); Oldon Mezzanine 01-470-9/50x3; Oderm West End 930 5252; Place 0700-880-99; Repair x37 8402; Warner West End 437 4343.

REPERTORY CINEMAS

REF ER TOP Officenses

FERMINAL OFFICER TUBE NW3

[0171-435 1825]

The Remains Office Day (U) Sur Listjon.

6 15pm + Carrington [1813-55pm, 8-40pm 8

1.21 [48] Sur J. Higher + Judge Of The Spirits

118 13 35pm Tile Wanderer (PG) Sur h. Spirit

1.3 Adams Bostay (1818-35pm)

**Audams Bostay (1818-35pm)

**Carrington Str. Avail SW1 (1917-1918-1847) Realine On the Swit 10171-930-36471 Realine Of The Series - Festival 10 New Japanese Cinema Plante for details The Most Terrible Time in My Lale Sat, San 9.15pm LONDON LESBURY & GAY FILM FESTIVAL NATIONAL

NFT South Bank SET (0171-)28 32721 Uneen Onrsuna (PG) Sat Nopon Hallelu-jah Um A Bum Sat Nopon PRINCE CHRIES Lencester Place WC2 (0171-

ROTERSIDE Crist Road Wo (0181-741 2255)

RIPERAIRE Crops Reviad Web (1)18-1741-2255-1 Serine, Store, 1181/Sar Jepn Neus Balant Short 13rt Sart open Repubblica Nosara (18rt Sar 4. Arpin Parspir II & Pimico III San Zem + Pather Parspiril (*Tepn Love Burns 18a San 7.20pm - L'Amore Molasto (18a San 7.20pm)

WEST END CHOICE Mannes - [1] Stat. [3] Two. [4] Wed. [5]: This [6] En [7] Sat

of professional rights players.

Disk of first of Martin's Lane, WC210171-

Descri 1151 Nan 8.45pm

THEATRE

THE CHANGING BOOM

Plans at of I taked Stones's look at the rituals

Adrean Levier and Sheda Cosh in Sondheim's

Bristol

HART MO ME Sheda Hanoock in Nagel Williams's savage comedy about an alling chat show hest. Repail Come Sheane Square, SWI 19171-750 17451 © Steane Square, Men-Sai 7:20127 Mar. 7,00), 1713-30 tho mat todayi, eruk 20 12-1854 (Normal Andreas). Apr. 25-£18, cones available.

AM IDEAL HUSBAND Martin Shaw and Arms Carterel in Peter Hall's revival of his 1992 production. Theare Royal Haymarket, SW1 (0171-93) ROYAL HATIDIKAL THEATRE

Mother Courage And Her Children Drama Rings in David Hare's new version of Brecht's tale of survival. Today 2.00 & 7,15.
Lynellow:
Bary Smart [sabelle Huppert and Anna

Massey star in Schiller's historical drama. Today 2.15 & 7.30. Controlor:
Statley Antony Sher as the great English ariest Stanley Spencer in Pam Gents' portrait, Feday 2,30 & 7,30.
Olivier & Lyttellion: \$7.50.422.50 Cottoslee \$10-21.30. Day seats from Jilam, South Bank [0]71-928 2252 BR/W Waterloa,

Michael Ball and Maria Friedman in Stephen Gueza Shaifesbury Avenuc, Wi [0]71-494 5590cc 544 4444] © Pice Circ. Mon-Sat 7 48 [26 Mar. 7,00, [4]]7] 3 (0, £]3.50-£30.

Michael Gambon and La Williams in David Hare's acclaimed study of a green custom. Nendham's Charing Green Ruad, WCC 10171-369 1734re 507 1111 © Lefe Sq. Mon-Sat 8.00, [7] 3.00, £9,50-£25.

TAP DOGS RP BOSS

Raw Log speciacle from Olivier Awardwinning charcographer Dem Perry,

Lyme Shaftesbury Awanue, W. 10171-494

SMS) & Proc Cire, Flori-Thu SAG, Fri & Sat

6,81 & S 45, ends 8 June, £5-£22-50.

198887 alongsade Kun Wilde at Pete Transhend's het Broadway musseal. Stufpetion Shaftesbury, Avenue WC2 10171-379 53991-© Holbs in/Ton Ct Rd Mon-Sat SUC [4][7] 300, £10,50-£90.

TRAINSPOTTING Stark but exciting adaptation of levine

Whitehall Whitehall, SW1 (0)71-369 1735-ce 997 1111 BR @ Clusting X. Toe-Frt 800, Sat 8 50, 141715 00, 111-100, each 1 June, 15-116.

BEYOND THE WEST END ARTS TREATRE Brothers of the Bresk Junuary Musplay's sources to result of the control of

Server It the Oan id Eight days's debut play

explores the roots of racial harred among group of East London youth Last peri-lonight Spin. 64-54, cones £6. Shepherds Bush Green, W12 (0181-743) THE ROOM, ORANGETREE PUB

Come Christina rend some some section coatefure through a comic some section in one. Mon-Sai 7.45pm Line perfs 26 Mar. S.

POVERSIDE STROUGS

filterance sensions
More Than filters from a exploring the strange familiates of a woman observed by a gay man Thre-Tha & Sat 7 45pm, Fri 8 15pm, ends 14 Apr. £850, cones 66. Criso Rd. Wintel \$1-741 2255;

THE SAME STRATEGING EAST
THE SAME 'S Song Broan James Ry Ser's grafty
but hums gone Northern Iron thraller. Mon-Sal spirit, and 31 Mar. Zpin. ends 15 Apr. 22-15 concess and 484. f 15, comes available. Gerry Rarfler Square, E [5:0151-5340310]

TOURG 9C
TOURG 9C
The Meanthrope Ken Stott heads Limboy
Posnet's production of Martin Comp's new
version of Mohere's sattre Law parts to Liv
2.50 pm & 7.30 pm £14, cones for
The Cut, SE1 01171-92865031 BR-©
Waterlao.

ARDUND THE COUNTRY

London

CHURCHIL THEATRE leight New museral thriller starring Dave Willers as the Donor with a malevolent alter-ego, Mon-Sai 7-45pm, mats Thu & Sai, 2.50pm, ends 15-Apr. 19:50-214-50, cones available. High Street (9181-460 6677) ipswich

Adam Bade George Elsot's classic of late 16th century adapted by Geoffrey Beener, Tae-Fri 7 45pm, Sat 8pm, mars Wed 2,30pm, Sat 4pm, ends 30 Mar £7.50-£11.75, comes available. Crest Drive (01473-253725)

Plymouth DROPH THEATRE, THEATRE ROYAL The King of Presson Nack Darke's Cornes swashbuckling sam of smurglers and shipsweeks. The Sai, 7,45 pm, mar 28 Mar, 1,45 pm, ends 50 Mar, 25-27, comes £3-24-50. Royal Parado (0)752-2677224 THEATRE ROYAL

Sistery New Nographical play by award-winning writer James Goldman. Mon-Sat 7, Opin, mars Thu & Sat 2, 30pin, ends 30 Mar. £5,50-£16,50, cones £5-£5,50. Royal Parade (0) 752-2672223 <u>Salisbury</u>

Sollishury Plantilist

Tend the Tithernites Tara Woodward in Colin
Mayes and Mark Clements' new adaptation
of Hardy anored Non-Wed 7,20pm, Tim-Sat
Apra, mats, Su 4pm, 2, Mm, 4, Apr., 2,20pm,
ends 6, Apr. 20-214, cones, madable
The Makings (01,727-201833) Stratford-upon-Avon

ROTAL SHARESPEARE THEATRE
Tanith Hight Lin Todge's cersion of
Shakespeare's romantic comedy. Mon-Sai
7.30pm, mais Wed & Sai 1.30pm, ends III ersida (01789-295623)

EXHIBITIONS

<u>London</u> BARBICAN ART CALLERY Business ART CALLERY
Unaphiles: Design of the Ballets Resser: Exhibition
exploring the artistic and cultural
achievements relating to Diaghdey, Mon.
Weed Sai Humon 45pm, Toe Humon 345pm, San (2n.on-6 45pm), ends 14 Apr. 15, cones Eli, Silk St., ECC (0) 71-638 4141 (& Burbesa.

BAYWARD GALLERY Spellbaund, Art & Film The theme explored by Paoloza, Hust Greenway and Gordon. Mon-Sun Itom-been turned Som Tue & West ends 6 May 15, Gines 13.50, Belvedore Road, SE1 (0171-9604242) BR. © Waterloo.

NATIONAL GALLERY Businesses from the Born Paraphil Sabiny Includes Velucquez, Caracar and Raphael, Non-Sai Hum-ipm, Sun 2pm-ipm, cmd 19 May, Frac Tradigur Separre, WC2 (0171-839 33211 @ Charung Cross.

ROTAL ACADEMY OF ARCS
Product Logistan 1830-1836 Mayor show for Insturbant Victorian painter: Mon-Sun 10 ambum, ends 21 Apr. 15-50, corus 15-50. Burlangton House, Precedity, Wi 10171-439
74381 @ Precedity Circus.

SANTER GRUSH*
Hung Remains Part 2 Jacqueline Humphrise,
Richard Prince, Tory, Oursler, Charles Ray,
and Kilo Sroth, The Sun 12 noon-span, ends.
12 Mo. Thu fee, Fri Sun £30, Boundary
Rd 10 [71-624 S26+) BR: Sth Hamperson. SERPENTINE CALLERY less Michel Bassmat Survey of his complex, raw

images Mon-Sun Ham-Opin, unds 21 Apr. tree, Kensington Gardens, WI 19171-402 60751 • Sruth Kensangton, Common important survey with wi purntings

and Westers' ours Men-Sun Dism-5-8 ym. ed.b D. Apr. \$7,0000 \$4. Millbans, SW1 (0) 71-6-7 \$200 @ Fimber WINITECHAPEL ART GALLERY the wall Amment out and a vener in wallmagned light boss. Ter San Ham-fpm (Wed until Spm), and S Movince. Whitechape High Street E1 (0171-522 (288) Aldan's Entil

SUSSEIN OF WEATHER AND

THE OFFICIAL SHEET PROCESS AND PROPERTY HE PROPERTY OF THE SET THE SET THE FEAT THE SET THE SE COMEDY

Basingstoke MALLAN CLURY AT THE ASSECT The real queen of hearts? To really open 1912 to wait 441 461 4612 Hastings

Helen Ausun, Sanon Bligh, Tim Clark, Millon I mes & Scan Percual. Tonight Spin & 12midaight, Haymarket House, Ovendon Street, SW1101426-

7144351 & Leacester Square, EUR. Michey Hutton MCs for Simon Bligh, Keith Dover, Dylan Moran & Man Welcone, Tonight 7, Span & 11, Span Lavender Gardens, SW11 10171-404 2766) BR: Clariforn Junction, £10, comes £7. LEE EVANS AT APOLLO THEATRE

The poststodern Norman wessen.

Taught Spin & 8, Opm. Shaftesbury Aven.

Wi 10171-494 5070) & Piccadilly Circus. F7.50-£17.50 MODERN PROBLEMS IN SCIENCE AT BLOOMSBURY

Improv from Chreago. Twight topm & 8,30pm. Gurdon Struct, WC I (0] 71-388 88223 BR & Euston, IX, cones Io IP THE CREEK
Kenth Fields MCs for Jenny Eduir, Andre
Vincent & Paul Zenou,
Fungh Open, Creek, Road, SE [010181-858
4581/BR: Greenwach, £12, cones £8. COMEDY STORE PLAYERS

COMENT STORE PLANES
Simon Clayton, Ned Mullarkey, Caroline
Onentin. Lee Simpson, Jun Sweeney &
Richard Vranch,
Sun Spin. Haymarket House, Oxendon
Sucst, SWI [0]426-9144531 © Leicuster
Square, £9. ONNA INCPHAILS BILL BARLEY AT DRINE OF YORK'S

HEARE Barbed comic accompanied by the man with the funniest Starsky & Hutch gag in the West. Sun opm & Rom, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (II) 71-826 5122cc 836 9877) & Leicester Squart, Charing Cross, 26-£10.

DANCE

Crawley HEHAMI Lodon Of Ballet Cindenta Prokufice's score re-chorcographed by Matthew Hart. Today 2-Jipm (Maller/Els), Longha 7-Jipan (Sangwan Fieteren) £13,50-£16,50, concu-acadoble. Hawth Avenue (01293-553636)

London

Deathe's new full-length ballet 10 a Rhaikovsky stare Today 2.30pm & 7.30pm. £4-£35, copes prailable St Martin's Lane, WC2(0171-6328300) SADLER'S WELLS

SMILES WELLS
loopin for Supy Passion Modern flamenco
with Cories, Marco Berriel and Cristobal
Reyes, Sun 7-30n. 57 50-E94.
Rosebury Avenue, ECI (0171-278/8916/713
s000) & Angel.

Norwich THEATRE ROYAL otores in Motion Pictures: Swan Lake

Swansea GRAND THEATRE Ranthert Dance Company Stabut Mater, Axioma 1 Petics Meet and Rocker, Tomph 7 Mann.

64 SOL (12 SO, comes marlable) Singleton Street (01792-475715)

CLASSICAL

London BAGBICAN HALL Members of the Scothab Chamber Orchestra/Westrop

 Bartwann Moorgate
 Titlers
 Courts for fromg thesections including Mathian'
Lear Sorge and Lambert's Resistance.
 Kortech T. Solyme 54 & St.
 Courts from St.
 Botton Charles from Handel's Deals Personness with Parent Small's Registers. Sur 7.3 June 56 & 29.50.
 Small Square, SWI 10171-222 10631
 Westman Ser OFFERI SLIZARETH BALLS

Idifollor The peans; in Mogart and Reible south San 3,3 pm, 29-615 South Rank Ceptre, SE (10171-98) 4242; BR-9 Waterloot ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL Ladio Philipsengueritation in a single large-scale work. Mather's inhometric Tought 7,55pm, 25,650. Bach Charletteek With the English Chamber

JAZZ, WORLD, FOLK ETC. Orchestra in Both 15th Astronomer Pressors Sur Ham, E7-E50. Re Bering with Leily Garrett The suprano is joined by the London Philharmonic, Sun 7-30pm, 111 50-E28. South Bank Centre, SE1 (0171-460 4342) BR/© Waterloo.

OPERA Brighton Tolotto Stephen Med. alf directs Verdi's nidde-period drams. Emight 7,30pm. £7.50-£18.5U.

La Transta A revival for Richard Eyre's Roya Opera production, here conducted b Rosa with Andrea Rosa as Violetta,

onight 7,30pm £7-£140. Covern Garden, WC2 (0171-304-4001)

New Read (M273-328485)

estes Genesis man Mike Rutherford's successful ACR side-project. com Exchange Wheeler Street (0) 223-357851) Tought & Sun, 7,30pm, phone for availability.

Sametraen Dance-pop team with a number of hits behind them, The Junction Clifton Road (01223-412600) Sun 7pm, £6-£7.

Easy Russon Elightess synth star back in the charts with the TV ad-assisted re-release of the New Wave classes Cars.
Leas Clif Hall The Leas (01303-253193) onlight Spm, £11.

Gloucester fresh pop sound. Guildhall Arts Centre (01452-575989) Tonight 8,30pm, 15-15-50. London

Gary Bassan See Fellerstorne. Asteria Charleg Ctore Road WC2 (⊞7)-454 (503) ⊕ Tottenham Court Road. Son 7pm. €)4. Solar Shage Seventures does voicel group. Bottom Line Shepherd's Bosh Green W12 (0181-749 1114) Shephero's Bush. Sun 7 30pm 510. Cartage Butch Vig's sleek industrial pop

Sun April, 1950. But Retra rock from the Scouse himakers, The Forum Highgate Read NWS [0171-344 (044) BR & Kennish Town, Traight & Son, Tatalonis Spilly Welsh indie-rockers.

The Gamer Highbury Corner N5 (0171-607)

INBoar 3-4 (1814) & Highbury & Jolington.

Breton Academy Stackwell Road SW9 [0171-024 9999) BR. & Brixton.

Rought Spm. E5.
Rassas firaj North African and Arab music from the Morroccan multi-instrumentalist.
Purcel Record South Bank Centre SE1. [017]-061-2-32; BR-O-Waterlow, Tamight 7-Mon Tell. briight Spm, £5.

7.30pm, £10.
Stars (if Hands Self-hare gig for the West Courny acousts falls than Royal Albert Hall Kensingson Gore SW7 (0171-599 S2!2) & High Street Kensington Sut 6.45pm. £13.±17. MAR, Otherate Race, Scan Magaira, Benz, Europeon Prince's Trust benefit with a bost of swingrimages into comen with a times to some beat and pop acts. Staphent's Bush Empire Shaphent's Bush Form W.E. (1918)—111 (774) • Shaphent's Bush, Boright Topa Es. The Salans Glamerts ek from concrute non-city hand of Ping FC. Underworld Wield's Eral Camben High Street NW1 10171-452 1952 (Cambin

Lown, Tomobi 7 30mm, for The Martinus Gentle Britpoppers currently copyring a big but with their Stight Return single.
L'ins strip of Lowdon Uman Malet Street
White Tip 171-323 5481 of Goodge Street.
Europht bean places for availability.
Lating Branks Funk-rock from the Brit-wisming Hendras aculyte.
Weinbley Aren Europee Way 10181-900
1244 of Weinbley Park.
Turnelly 3 Places 110.

Tomehi o Yopm, £16. Postypridd ny Animais Welsh-language indic psychoticus. Maa. Im Contr. Gelineustad Road 101443-485934 Fengin 7pm, 14, concs £5.9h Reading String bates Classe region counter now signed to the Acid Jazz tibel. Address Gun Street (01734-561116) Sun Spin, ES 50.

Som, £10.

68 Scott-Herm Sec Brighton. The Junction Clifton Road (01223-412600) Torright 7mm, E9, adv E8, NUS Etc. <u>London</u>

> IC4 The Mail SW1 (0171-930 3647) ⊕: Charing Cross/Embankment, Sur Spin, £ cones £5: conts. 5:
> Boby Plasten Art Blakey and George Coleman's alto cohort.
>
> Jazz Cafe Parksan NWI (0171-344 0044).
>
> G Canden Yown, Tomphi 7pm, £12, adv. ctn

> 110.
> Readside Ficaic ECM-ish fusion quartet.
> Picas Express Dean Street W1 (0171-439
> 9721) & Tottenham Court Road. Torught Spin. £)0.50. Eddle Harris with Hidd Yeok's leftellem Funk experimentalist.
> The Rivalimic Chapel Market N1 (0171-713)

LITERATURE

Canterbury · Pan Agent The comedienne and poet with new poems including Will I Have To Be Sexy As Sexty. At Sorty.

Mark-we Theatre The Fitars (01221-787781).

Kmught 7.30pm, 27.50-28.50.
Jan Shalworthy Talk and signing copies of his book Leavis MacNetee.

Waterstone's (01227-456345) Sain 7pm, free.

author Cyntine Payne recounts mass area. There past.
Thorizont Halls Bory Road (01705-528017)
Todget 7-30pm, 66-50.
Who larning 2 Brine Patter An evening of stories and poems from the ever popular Miles Harding and Livetpool poet Brian Patten, Thorngute Halls Bury Road (01705-528017)

Sem 7.30pm, £6.50. Bick Shornt Reading from his book Don't Pur-lear Finger In The Jelly Nelly Waterstone't Islington Green N1 (0171-704

Heil Bartlett & Lynno Filman Reading from their role Mr Clive & Mr Page and Harmed Biolis no Care House. Biologicose's Islangton Green NI (0171-704) ZiNi) Today Spin, froe.
Issues Haves Reachings from the author of
Whate More With First.
Fifthy Mose Nasty's & The Whiteley Cofe
Answell Street EC1 (0171-609 2543/837

Physical Arts Center Lone Street (01752-: 660060) Today Spin, £3.50, cones £2.50. EVENTS Bournemouth
See Fels Resi Connection Activities, raffles and
other competitions all with a ser-fi theme,
Bournemouth University (01.202-995389)
Today 1 30pm, £2.50, cones available.

Cardiff

Wang Shipt A look at the instanced and cul-tural background of these saling vessels.

Whith Industrial & Munione Museum Bore Street (01222-4819(9) Ends 21 Apr. phone Chepstow Disease Resident Archettes and games bring-ing prehistoric days to life for children of all

ages.
Dell Hall Lower Church Street (0129162581) Mon-Sun (1am-Spm, ends 24-Apr, phone for details.
Chockwart Cheshurit
Action Man Collectors' Day A chance to wet ware Action Man Collectors way A change to sea and collectable Action Men. Weber Hall Wandmill Lane (01992-28567/32812) Sun 11am-lpm, £1.

Craydon The Finding Concert with mount by accusation.

Grieg and Stravently.

Pairfield Concert Hall Park Lane (0181-688
9791). Taday (1am, 14-15-50.

55. under 54 free.

Stany buy to thought Style. A look at why the
18th century is called the Age Of Elegacocwith speakers broughing Dan Cruftshank.
There Roseman and Graham Child.
Gelffye Messauer Kingsland Rd E2 (0171-739
933) 40 Old St. Today 10.30am-4. Mpm.
225 including special Georgies lanch.
Bertinian Dat Falt Vand made crafts including control correction, band made wants and (0181-699 1872) BR; Forest Hill Son 11am-4pm, £1, comes 50p, undez 1.2s free. Decerative Authors And Tentles Fair Fair for inte-

pecarative ampliant and managements and control decorators and designers.

Aimy College Chelsea Fulliam Red SW10

(1) 71-836-5454) & Fulliam Broadway, Today

1) 11mm-5pea, Sun Harm-5pea, Ed. child free.

Hartings Actiones Fair Walch display of jewellery,
salver, glass, enumels, prints, paintings,
ceramics and much more. Landon Marriot Hotel Grosvenor Square WI (0171-4931232) Son Ham-5pm, £1. SEI 86 Programme of events featuring sci-ence, engineering and bechnology. National Mantime Museum Roumey Rd SE10 (018) 858 4422) BR: Mare Hill Ibday &

(188) 453 4422) BR: Mare Hill. Takey & Sun, 10pm-5pm, 85-50, cones £4.50, child £3. Leedon hierarticost live Stow Equipment galore with a chemes to try dress to a swimming pool and an hierarcial diving feature. Olympia Hammersmith, Road W14 (0171-603 3344) 49 Earl's Court/Olympia, Richy 9am-6pm, Sun 9am-5pm, £7, child £1.50, Chi London Orleand Print Pair Original prints sold

lotton triging ran (an expansion passes see direct to the public.

Right leadent of Arts Burlington House,
Piccadilly W1 (0171-439 7438) © Piccadilly.

Today & San, 1 land-span, £5, comes £2.50.

COMING UP Long Brank Mar 23, 6,30pm, Wembley Ave-pa, London Mark Koupler May 14, 7,30pm; Civic Hell. Wolverhampton, May 17, 730pm, Corn Ex-change, Cambridge; May 17, 7, 30pm, Bournesmuth International Centra, Bournesmuth May 18, 530pm, Cardiff In-ternational Arcnat, Cardiff ternational Arcia, Cardiff ind lang May 6, 7,30pm, Brighton Contre, Brighton, May 7, 7,30pm, Bournemouth International Centre, Bourpersouth; May 9, 111, 6,30pm, Wembley Arcia, London Barry Hawley Apr 5, 6, 20, 21; Wembley Arcia, London; Apr 8, 6,30pm, Cardiff International Armas, Cardiff

Johny Mathis Sept 16 & 17, 6.45pm, Royal
Albert Hall, London Sept 18, 7pm.
Brighton Centre, Brighton Brighton Centre, Brighton Seat Loaf Apr 1, 6,30pm, Westpoint Centre, Excher, Apr 14, 6,30pm, Cardiff International Arens: Apr 16, 17, 29, 31, 6,30pm, West-

bicy Arena, London

Basis Bardand Apr 13, 7pm, Shophend's
Basis Empire, London

H Paspis Jime 15, 445pm, Alton Towers, Altoid, Jone 16, 3pm, Coystal Palado National
Sports Centre, London

Basis Borisson Apr 14-16, 7pm, Shepherd's
Basis Empire, London

Van Bartisse and Rep Christs June 19, 6,30pm,
Wembley Arena, London bu Burison and Ray Glories June 19. 6,30pm, Wembley Anema, London Orbital May 5, 7,30pm, Brighton Centre, Brightrur, May 6, 7,30pm, Cornwall Collise-um, St Austell, May 9, 6,45pm, Royal Al-bert Half, London, May 11, 7,30pm, Corn Exchange, Cambridge Rad But Gail Peppars July 11, 6,30pm, Wemb-ley Arena, London

ley Arena, London

Brace Springston Apr 16, 17, 22, 27, 6, 45pm,
Royal Aftert Hall, London: Apr 24 & 25, 195005 Alton Towns, Alton (8990-204060) Brighton Centre, King's Road, Brighton (01273-202081) (0171-924 9999) Cardif International Acesa, Bestetown, Cardiff (01222-230130) Ciric Red, London Road Gastelford (01483-Cataton Hall, Colston Street, Bristol (0117-922 3686/cr 922 3683) 308s/er 922 3683)
Dom Bettangs, Wheeler Street Cambridge
(01223-357831)
Darmall Calissam, St. Australi (01726-814004)
Paraller Plymouth (01753-229922)
Royal Ment Sall, Kensington Gone, London
(01775-898-812)
Stupierd's Beth Empire, Shepherd's Bush
Green Loudon (0181-740 7474)
Wardlan How Empire, War Mandalan (0181

Wentley Area, Empire Way, Wembley (0181-900 1234)

BELLEN CLARY AT WHITE ROCK THEATRE See Bestely on the Church services

Passion Sunday CARTISCONTONIONAL CONTROL CONTROL MARION OF THE SECOND SEC DESTOL CAPATION. The service of the

a train of Willey Tay, New High Worder, Chelleria Learning Hope of the William Prop. London, His Medical Control of Problems on London, When Learning and John of Prop. The Prop. Learning and John of Prop. The Complex Learning and Complex Complex of the Complex Complex Complex Complex of the

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Into anchard thereta. The Res Dr Jare Tiller 12 Non Mr. Jun Freimann, Joseph on F. Gunfright Carrella L. van He. Yaz Res Dr I Fisher. 12 Mr. Hou, Dr. Jare M. Weller, Beller, J. De Sob Dr. va. H. Fam Maine Vanghor Williams at Gr. H. Machillan of June Levinson, Workey in E. Carin Tree Charles and H. Carin Free Charles and He. John Cathelia Landwell Mr. a sterm Christ materia Polestra. The Res Levinson Bearers (J. Phys. Maine, He. Drawington) Heredick, J. Sym Erredon, Glescowiet service (Hough St. De. Argelstein).

O'Thomas, 'I was said to account the office and it has a been a failed with the office of the office

TRUD CAMERAL, Sam HO, Sam Maters, Das SP an-celled Heart-Story Enchanta, Lister can sectional the-land, spin Lawreson. Observation server. If working, the foreign committee, from Sam, Enchantel, Ma-elled Cameral, Sammer D., Serve Rev. P. Leve-(Listern Maters, Sammer on Hellar, spin Enchantel, Material Cameral, Sammer on Hellar, spin Enchantel, SP Maters (Sammer on Hellar, spin Enchantel).

BROW Committee May Not Not have Not Not Applied to May 1990 May 19 THE TABLE COMMENT OF SALES AND THE TABLE TO SALES AND THE TABLE TABLE TO SALES AND THE TABLE TABLE TO SALES AND THE TABLE TABL

let. MERIMOTE MEND SOP DE PERMENO, IL EL COMMENDE DE L'ARCHE L'ARCHE L'ARCHE MANNE L'ARCHE L

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Billians by the Some Roward Street | ECO Harm Song Furtherist Cyme a Sagnard rear Colon.

Billians Mangarer Street Will Ston Low Moreout (Colon Moreout French Harm Low Moreout Mangarer Street Williams Moreout Moreo

Milliant Petron Bridge, We find the William Step Song London (1) After Step A 17 (No. 12 Common Com • errorsh baint form 1.1.4 Harn Groud Matins and Smiths Red Steam 1.1.4 Harn Groud Matins and Smiths Red Steam Materiana Latter being transport for the Steam Steam Latter Latter Steam Steam Steam Latter Steam Stea

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Mitchaft and H Jappt, Redfand Jufe, W4-8m HC, liban Fath Buchuret, O. Shen European, Mitchaft (Borbert, 1988) and Fath Buchuret, O. Shen European, Mitchaft (Bort, 11am HC, Mr. Albert (Bort, 17pa Islam, 18th Hart (Bort, 11am HC, Mr. Albert (Borter), 1981) and Hell (Bort, 1981) and Hel St Columba's Charge of Stations, Pout Street, SW1: 1 July, 6. Npm. The Rev John II. Meladoc. L. Vym., The Rev John H. Meindon.
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W.C. 11 Liver, The Rev Denre Bermandt, o. Ripm.
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The Afternoor Shift Spin R4. I wenty some years new Manifed Manifest share away a spape foot of spor in Wales free wat every album. Today, Frank Wason vishs the ship in find our whether anybody activally table up the offer.

Without: Walks Spin. C4 Lexicographer and stong dictionary computer tonation Green argues that, far-from occlosing the mother tongue, stong invigorates and minorates. No shi 19132). The Oscar's Topin BBC1 (above). Extensive highlights of last nightlesh lollywood jambone (8794). Fibri. Network (Sabrey Lumet 1976 US) 12am BBC1. Petric Finch work a postfinimous Oscar for his violation of the TV arreforman group AWO). his portugal of the TV anctionman gone AWOL. In Lancet's rather hysterical rant about the emis of telly (997.95).

Memori 10am R4FM. Four programmes on the zoology and mythology of poistmoss beastles, starting with spiders – why people are scared of them, which kinds we really ought to be scared of, plus how to cure arachnophobia.

A Royal Gala Spm ITV. Shirtey Bassey, Eric Clapton, Barry Manilow and the Chinese State Circus entertain the Prince of Wales to mark the tenth anniversary of his Youth Business Trust

Modern Times 9pm BBC2 fabous/. Contestants in Eric and Julia Morley's latest dreamchild, a Mr. UK competition, reseal (nearly) all (519992). Newsnight 10.35pm BBC2. BBC Social Affairs Editor, Niall Dickson, on the fight againstdrugs, US-style (375089).

Candide 7.30pm R3. The climax of the Fittes season is Bernstein's brilliant Voltairean operetta, in a specially recorded concert performance, with a cast including Bill Paterson and Ron Moody. All is for the best in this, the best of all possible worlds.

Reputations 9pm BBC2. Was Muhammad Ali (above) more than just a great boxer? We hear from those who claim his stance on civil rights, white America and the Vietnam War made himan important political role model (2003). Undercover Britain 9pm C4. Ticket toots are now illegal, thanks to the Taylor Report on the Hillsborough Disaster. Undercover football fan

Gary Thompson finds them alive and pocketing

the cash at soccer grounds across the country

Pankhiraj 10am R4FM. Possibly the first magical realist scap - a family drama centred on three generations of Indian women whose lives are influenced by a kindly winged horse, the pankhiraj.

screened prototype kitchen-sink drama from cult director Thompson, with Yvonne Mitchell superb as her 20-year-marriage to Anthony Quayle is threatened by a younger woman (421436). Doing Rude Things 9.30pm BBC2. Highly entertaining look back at the brief history of the Shitish soft poin film - from naturist documentaries to Robio Askwith and Mary Milkington. Presented by Angus Deayton (above) (278252).

African Harvest 9.45am R4. Allan Little presents four letters from South Africa; he starts by finking Burke and Hare and a conversation with a white woman in a sandwich shop the day before the first non-racial local elections.

Sunday television and radio

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TO SERVICE OF THE PERSON NAMED IN COLUMN TWO IS NOT THE PERSON NAMED IN COLUMN TWO IS NAMED IN COLUMN TWO

Designation of the second

7.30 Childrens BBC: Jim Henson's Animal Show, 7.55

8.30 Breakfast with Frest (S) (25908). 9.30 Season of Change (S) (9878298).

10.15 See Hear! (S) (520231). 10.45 Help Your Child with Reading (R) (S) (3153989). 11.00 Hidden Empire (R) (S) (2960). 11.30 My Brilliant Career, Lord Spens (R) (S) (8219). * 12.00 CountryFile (S) (50250).

12.30 On the Record (79076). *
1.30 EastEnders Omnibus (S) (2975237). * 2.55 ETT Christopher Columbus: The Discovery (John Glen 1992 US). Embarrassing 500th

anniversary salute to the 15th-century explorer played by the wooden George Corraface. Marion Brando looks in need of a health farm as Torquemada (21577453). 4.50 Cartoon (9539328). 4.55 The Clothes Show, Celebrates the 50th

anniversary of the bikini (\$) (2679540). 5.20 Lifeline. Gaby Roslin appeals on behalf of Camp Quality UK (S) (9546182). - 5.30 News, Weather (998989). 5.50 Local News (183521).

5.55 Songs of Praise. From Leicester (S) (185665), 6.30 Antiques Roadshow, Windermere (635521). * 7.15 Hamish Macbeth. See Preview, p32 (S) (429057). *

8.05 Birds of a Feather (R) (S) (517279). *

8-35 News, Weather (565076). * 8.50 Pat and Margaret. Another chance to see Victoria Wood's funny and touching comedy drama in which Wood and Julie Watters play sisters separated since childhood. Wood, who works in a Lancashire service station, and Walters, now a big. soap star in America, are reunited in a Surprise.

Surprise-style TV show (R) (6383637). * 10.15 A Tribute to George Burns A repeat, which is what you get for living until you're 100 years old. This was the relatively young 8ums (well, 95 to be precise) talking to Terry Wogan (R) (S) (925328). 10.55 Heart of the Matter. See Preview, p32 (S)

(807618). 11.35 The Sky at Night (S) (865502). * 11.45 Get Carter (Mike Hodges 1971 UK). Sadistic, fashionably fragmented gangster movie set in a sturningly photographed Newcastle, neatly scheduled in the wake of *Our Friends in the* North Michael Caine is nicely impassive as Jack

Carter. (250182). 1.35 Weather (8316962). To 1.40am. REGIONS. Wates: 11.00pm Wates Playhouse. 11.30 Heart of the Matter. 12.10 The Sky at Night. 12.20 Film: Get Carter. 2.10 News; Weather.

BBC 2

6.15 Open University: Pure Mathematics (9429163). 6.40 Maths Models (6639989), 7.05 Reconstruction of the Bankside Theatres (5462347), 7.30 8iological Barners (4055415). 7.55 Venice and Antwerp – the Cities Compared (1590873). 8.20 Health and Disease in Zimbabwe (4385231). 8.45 How We Study

Children (6843250). 9.10 Children's BBC: Jackanory: The House at Pooh Corner, 9.25 Phantom 2040, 9.50 The All New Popeye Show, 10.05 I Hate This House, 10.30 Grange Hill 10.55 The Ant and Dec Show, 11.20

Short Change, 11.45 Star Trek, 12.35 Police Squad (R) (7705415). 1.00 Singled Out (82049989). 1.20 Holiday Outings. Le Canal du Midi (54906434).

1.30 Around Westminster (85434).

2.00 Engl Colt 45 (Edwin L Marin 1950 US).

Undervalued western staming Randolph Scott as a salesman touring the Wild West promoting the new rapid-fire Colt 45 (7179540). 3.10 World Figure Skating Championships (5425540).

3.55 Young Musicians 96 (3365796). 4.55 Rugby Special. Highlights of Pilkington Cup semifinals: Bath v Gloucester, and London Irish v Leicester (S) (9313927). 5.55 Natural World. Manuel Hinge camped out in the

Caimgoms for 12 months to capture this portrait of the area's winter wildlife (528347). * 6.45 Crufts 96, Pets win prizes (S) (638618).

7.30 Wheeler on America (S) (318502). 8.20 The Money Programme. How single-issue pressure groups are increasingly dictating the environmental agenda to companies (168279). 9.00 Clive Anderson is Our Man In... Calcutta (S)

9.40 The Travel Show Essential Guides (717163). 10.00 Empire of the Sun (Steven Spielberg1987 US). Spielberg never gets to the semi-hallucinatory heart of JG Ballard's novel about an English boy interned by the Japanese after the fallof Shanghai. We see the boy, played by Christian Bale, from the outside, rather than experiencing events through his eyes. The fall of Shanghai itself, though, is Impressively handled (Then Weatherview) (S) (54213908). *

12.35 EIBM Nothing Lasts Forever (Tom Schiller 1984 US). Inventive and quirky feature from Saturday Night Live writer Schiller, with Zach Galligan as an artist in the New York of the future. Cameos come from Bill Murray and Dan Aykroyd (S) (8998458).

2.00 The Learning Zone. To 6.00am.
REGION5. Wates: 1.30pm Welsh Lobby. 4.55 Scrum 5. NI: 1.30pm Now You're Talking.

ITV/London

6.00 GMTV, 6.00 The 5 unday Review, 6.30 News and 5port. 7.00 The Sunday Programme (41434). 8.00 Disney Club. With PJ and Ouncan and Australian

dance troupe Tap Dogs (S) (36835908). * 10.15 Link. 21st anniversary edition of the programme for disabled people (S) (5405106). *

10.30 A Meditation (60328). * 11.30 Biessed Are They (\$) (8476415). * 11.55 Chalke Talk (\$) (7576521).

12.30 Crosstalk (80989). 1.00 News, Weather (48303434). *

1.10 Jonathan Dimbleby (S) (6500873). 2.00 Smokey and the Bandit II (Hal Needham 1980 US), Trucker 8urt Reynolds has to deliver a baby elephant to the Republican Convention in Texas. Only for those too hungover to operate their remote controls (402811).

3.40 The Munsters Today (S) (6697960). 4.10 London Tonight (4591989). * 4.20 News, Weather (4515569). *

4.30 The Match Live: Coca-Cola Cup Final. Aston Villa v Leeds United, Not the most attractive of fixtures for neutrals, but the big match atmosphere should loosen things up (pray for extra-time/penalties, because Jeremy Beadle will get shunted) (70546415).

7.15 You've Been Framed! (S) (546298). * 8.00 Coronation Street - the Cruise. Curly and Raquel's honeymoon, filmed on board the QE2. See Preview, p32 (S) (5927). *
9.00 Band of Gold. Prostitute drama. Rose travels to

Manchester to find her adopted daughter (S)

10.00 News, Weather (677231). * 10.15 Cracker. 2/3. Continuing the re-run of "The 8ig Crunch". Fitz is proved right in his feats about leaner (P) (674817). Joanne (R) (674811).

11.15 The New Statesman. Alan joins a moral crusade (R) (603163).

11.45 Theatreland. Sheridan Morley reviews London's new plays (602434).

12.15 Steelyard Slues (Alan Myerson 1973 US).
Smug, anti-establishment comedy about a team of misfits (Donald Sutherland, Jane Fonda, Peter Boyle) renovating an old World War II bomber 2.00 Cue the Music. Scott Richardson in concert

(1110670).

3.05 Ngain Marsh: Colour Scheme. George Baker plays Inspector Alleyn, investigating the disappearance of a mysterious man from a run-down guest house (9180421). 4.35 5hift (R) (6272496). 5.30 News (35090), To 6.00am.

IIK GOLD

Channel 4

Peculiar fun.

6.25 Trans World Sport (R) (7094705). 7.20 Take 5. With The Magic Roundabout, 8ush Tails, Natalie, Ivor the Engine and Joggy Bear (S)

(547890RL 7.45 The Magic School 8us (81908). 8.15 Hong Kong Phooey (6763892). 8.30 5turt Dawgs (6840163).

8.55 8iker Mice from Mars (6869298). 9.20 The Secret World of Alex Mack (S) (2083989). 9.50 Earthworm Jim (51 (5066076). 10.15 Saved by the Bell (1363989).

10.40 Wise Up. Junior points of view (S) (4659873). 11.15 NBA Raw (502095). 12,15 Mission Impossible (866705), *
1.15 Board Stupid, Heliboarding in Canada. It had to

happen (S) (802347). 1.45 Football Italia. Oepending on whether the players continue their strike or not (52003786). 4.00 Slue Wilderness. The Great Barrier Reef (908). *
4.30 A French Affair Concluding Malcolm Brinkworth's repeat documentary about four families who have relocated to the Dordogne (R) (S) (19347). *

5.30 Hollyoaks (R) (S) (144). * 6.00 Jules Verne's Rocket to the Moon (Don Sharp 1967 UK). Creaky attempt to follow-up the success of Those Magnificent Men in Their Flying Machines has very little to do with Jules Verne. 8url Ives plays PT Bamum, hoping to regain his tortune by sending a man to the moon. Terry-Thomas and Llonel Jeffries are the rogues trying to

scupper his plans (82823521). * 7.40 Travelog Treks. Mongolia (S) (266873). *
8.00 Encounters: Mad Dogs and Englishmen. See Preview, p32 (3569).

9.00 The Dambusters' Raid. Secret History film re-assessing the effectiveness of the legendary bombing raid of 16 May 1943. Did Barnes Wallis's bouncing bombs result merely in drowned livestock rather than crippling German industry? (R) (S) (3705). *

10.00 Diamond Skulls (Nick Broomfield 1989 UK). Documentarist Broomfield tries his hand at a young girl in his car, hushes it up, and then becomes obsessed with the idea that wife Amanada Donohoe is having an affair. A few

interesting ideas that don't go far (939927). *
11.40 IN She's Gotta Have It (Spike Lee 1986 USI. See The 8ig Picture, p32 (421502). *
1.10 See The 8ig Picture, p32 (421502). * Perceptive study of Arab-Israeli relations has Sharon Alexander as a military policeman with

murder of an Arab leads him to his army

colleagues (570477). To 3.10am

conflicting loyalties when his investigation into the

ITV/Regions

AMPLIA
As London except: 12.30pm Angla News and Business
News (30983). 2.00 Countrywide (7811). 2.30 Hear-torn (786). 3.00 World of Wonder (6556927). 3.25 High-way to Hearen (6546939). 11.15 Film Cozoon. The Return (66927786). 1.25am Hotel Babylon (9582651). 2.05am Late & Loud (2187545). 3.05am Cozoh (18402961). 3.35am Shit (7419903). 4.30am TV Sport Classics (72106). 5.00-5.30am Funny Business (57309). TYME TEES/YORKSHIRE

THE TEATORISMIC
AS Landon except: 12.2Spm Tyne: Newsweel
(5362873), toxis: The Powers That Be (5371521), 2.00
Cartoon Time (44876786), 2.05 Film: Casey's Shadow (552453), 11.15 Tyne; The Powers That Be (633163), toxis: Cyce's Cacless (603163), 11.45 Film:
Yanks (403368) 1.15am Film: Akire Inlagim (67311106), 4.35-5.30am Jobfinder (6272496).

CONTROL

AS London except: 12,30pm Central Newsweek
(7733298): 2.00 ir's Your Shout (7811): 2.30 Our House
(786): 3.00 Films Ambosh at Tondhevik Gap (63-5279):
11.15 The War of the Works (670098): 4,35am Jobfinder (5604187): S.2-S.30am Asian Eye (8874545).

HTY
As London except: 12.25pm West: Dogs with Dunbar
(5362873) Wates: Welch Agenda (5362873) 2.00 West.
HTV/South West Arts Film Awards (7811). Wates: The
Powers That Be (7811), 2.30 Special Report (786), 3.00
West: Getaways (5618) Wates: Privries from the Aftic
(9618), 3.30 West: West Match Plus (81714171 Wates:
Soccer Sunday (8171417), 11.15 Films Coccon: The
Return (68957786), 1.25mm Hote Barlyton (9582651),
2.05am Late & Loud (2187545), 3.05am Coach
(184023611 3.35am Shift (7418903), 4.30am (FV Spot Classes; 6721061, 5.00.8.30am Furny Business (57305). Classics (72106), 5,00-S,30am Funny Business (57309).

MBROUN
As London except: 12.30pm Seven Days (5032618).
2.00 The Pier (30675873). 2.25 The Letings (44885521). 2.30The Mention Match (723326). 3.15 Highway to Heavier (877819). 1.1.5Film: Coron The Return (58937786). 1.25am Hedel Babykon (588265).
2.05am Late & Loud (2187545). 3.05am Cobon (7487636). 3.35am TV Spot (7489603). 4.30am TV Spot Classes (72105). 5.00-5.30am Furty Business (57309).

WESTCOUNTRY
As London except: 12.30pm Westcountry Update (7732395), 2.00 Wid West Country (7811), 2.30 Highway to Heaven (25095), 3.30 Westcountry Weekend Match (8171417), 11.15 Flam; Coopon, The Return (68927786), 1.25am Hotel Babyton (958265), 2.05am Loach (18402361), 3.35am Shift (7418503), 4.30am (1050118402361), 3.35am (1050118402361),

S40
As C4 except 6.25am Transvertit Sport (7094705), 7.20
Take Five 15478908), 9.20 Tria Secret World of Alex
(2083989), 9.50 Terrytoons (50/5724), 10.10 Hollycoles
(4/365298), 1.15pm The Three Scores (52057908), 1.35
Terrytoons (79413750), 1.45 Rap 1-2185521, 2.10 Tocyn Tymor (7687231), 3.10 Travelog Treis (3541637)
3.40 Films Forbidaten Parel (7751621), 5.30 Pebot 7 Com
(37515502), 7.25 Dechrau Canu Dechrau (218076), 7.55
News (597322), 8.00 Sul Y Film (783873), 8.50 Pebot 7
Forld Hero (422989), 9.50 Sanh Ar Val (726811), 10.10
San Stefan (322279), 10.30 Film Worestand (22745618),
12.15-2.35am Films The Legend of Lylah Care (99571876)

Radio

(97.6-99.8Milz FM) 7.00am Claine Sturgess 10.00 Kevin Greening 2.00 Trevor Nel-son's Rhythm Nation 4.00 UK Top See Choice, right. 8.00 Radio 1 Rock Show 10.00 Andy Kershaw 12.00 Mary Anne Hobbs 4.00

Radio 2 (88-90.2MHz FM)

7.00am Don Maclean 9.05 Michael 7,00am Don Maciean 9,05 which Aspel 10.30 Hayes on Sunday 12.00 Desmond Carrington 2.00 Benny Green 3.00 David Jacobs 4.00 Let's Dance 4.30 Sing Some thing Simple 5.00 Pam Ayres 7.00 Hugh Scully 8.30 Sunday Half Hour 9.00 Alan Keith 10.00 The Night Before Oscars 12.05 Steve Madden 3.00-6.00am Alex Lester

7.00am Sacred and Profane.

7.00am Sacrea and Proteine. 9.00 Brian Key's Sunday Morning, Includes Berioz: Roman Carnina Vaughan Williams: Vagabond; Roadside Fir. Handel: Let the Bright Seraphim. Composer of the Week. Rubbra: Improvisations on Virginal Pieces by Giles Famaby. Virginal Pieces by Giles Farnaby.
Rigattl: Magniticat. Chabrier
idylle, Danse villageoise. Schumann: Konzenstuck in f. Op 86.
Debussy: Suite: Children's Comer.
Pierne: Cydalise et le chevre-pied.
Crusell: Divertimento in C.
Haydis: Mass No 14 in B flat.

12.15 Music Matters. 1.00 News: From the Proms 1995. 2.50 Spirit of the Age. Christophe Page, Hugh Keyle and Martin Neary examine the roysteries that surround Allegr?s Miserere. 3.50 Celebrity Recital: Cleveland Quartet Mozart: String Quartet in G. Mendelssohn: String Quar-tet in O, Op 44 No 1. Dvorak:

5tring Quartet in A, Op 105. 5.45 The Sunday Feature: Hungary 1956. Hungarian-born British poel George Szirtes's view of Budapest. 6.30 Clarinet and Plano. Richard Stoltzman (clarinet), Wayne Mar-shall (piano). Poulenc: Clarinet Sonata, Reich: New York Counter point for clannet and tape. Gershwin, arr Gach. Three Preludes.

7.30 The Suriday Play: The Teirth
Man. Drama about a young
woman possessed by a soul in
tornent. See Choice, above.

10.00 First World. Mars. N. 9.10 Choir Works. Haydn: Mass No 11 in D minor, Heinichen: Passionsoratorium: Nicht das Band, das dich bestricket.

Choice

Maverick author Paddy Chayefsky is commemorated in The Tenth Man (7.30pm R3), a 1959 play about unquiet spirits possessing nice Jewish girls in New York; and his royal Bobness (Dylan, that is, left) is celebrated in the last of Mark Radcliffe's re-run survey of musical Mavericks (7pm R1).

10.15 Medicine Now. 10.45 The Disunited Kingdom. 11.15 In Committee. 11,15-12.30am Record Review Bulfding a Library. Radio 4 11.45 Seeds of Faith. 92.4-94.6MHz FM; 198MHz UM) 6.00am News Briefing. 6.10 Something Under 6.55 Weather. 7.00 News. 7.10 Sunday Papers.

7.15 On Your Farm.

7.40 Sunday. 8.50 The Week's Good Cause. 8.55 Weather. 9.00 News. 9.10 Sunday Papers.

9.15 Letter from America. 9.30 Easter People. 15/6).

opera singer Kyra Vayne. 12.55 Weather.

11.45 Books and Company. (4/8). 12.15 Opert Island Oises. With

1.00 The World This Weekend.
1.55 Shipping Forecast.
2.00 Gardeners' Question Time.
2.30 The Classic Serial: All Things

Betray Thee by Gwyn Thomas. 3.30 Pick of the Week. 4.15 Analysis. A special discussion

on the prospects for a permanent peace in Northern Ireland.

5.00 News; The Off Season.

5.30 Poetry Please!

7.00 Children's BBC Radio 4: Travel

ling Light by Shaun Prendergast. 7.30 Opinion. (5/5).

8.00 (FM) The Natural History Pro-

gamme. 8.00 (LW) Open University God's Houses, 8.30 The Improbable

Vinci. 9.00 American Conversa-tions: Gloria Steinem. 9.20 The

Loss of British Power, 9.40 Talking about the Enlighterment.
8.30 (FM) Working History. (2/6).
9.00 (FM) Fourth Column Revisited.
9.30 (FM) Costing the Earth. The

problem of congested cities. 9.59 Weather.

10.00 News.

5.50 Shipping Forecast.

6.00 Six O'Clock News.

6.15 Feedback. 6.30 in Business.

11:15 Mediumwaye

12.00 News. 12.30 The Late Story: Soul Mates by Jane Gardam. 12.48 Shipping Forecast. 1.00am As World Service.

Radio 5

(93, 998tb W) 6.05am Straight Up 6.30 Brian Hayes at Breakfast 9.05 Sunday with Mair 11.35 Special Assignm with Mair 11.35 Special Assignment 12.00 Midday Edition 12.15 The Big Byte 1.05 Baker and Kelly Up Front 2.30 Gary Lineker's Sunday Sport 7.00 News Extra 7.35 The Acid Test 8.05 For God's Sake 8.35 Asian Perspective 9.00 Dallyn World-wide 10.05 Out This Week 10.35 Crime Desk 11.00 Night Extra 12.05 Nighterall 2.00 Lin All Might 12.05 Nightcall 2.00 Up All Night 5.00-6.00am Morning Reports

Classic FM ·

(100.0-101.9Mbz Plo) 6.00am Sarah Lucas 9.00 Classic Romance 12.00 Celebrity Choice 1.00 Alan Mann 3.00 Masterclass 4.00 Robert Booth 7.00 Book Browse 8.00 Evening Concert. Wagner: Overture: Rienzs. Mozart: Concerto for Flute and Harp, Tchalkovsky: Symphony No 4. Swindow: The Snow-storn. Glazunov: Spanish Dance. 10.00 Howard's Week 12.00 Andre Leon 4.00-6.00am Mark Griffiths

6.00am Janey Lee Grace 10.00 Graham Dene 2.00 Nicky Home 6.00 Mitch Johnson 10.00 Gary Davies 2.00-6.00am Robin Banks

(1215, 1197-1260Note WAY 105.8Note PAR)

World Service 1.00am World News 1.10 Press Review 1.15 Sell, Sell, Sell 1.30 Anything Goes 2.00 Newsday 2.30 Composer of the Month 3.00 World News 3.15 Sports Roundup 3.30 Jazz for the Asking 4.00 Newsdesk 4.30 Off the Shelf 4.45 Sell, Sell,

Satellite

6.00am Hour of Power (12298). 7.00 Undun (682618), 10.00 Ghoul-Lashed (47500637), 11.45 The Perfect Family (2941182). 12.00 The Hit Mix (10144). 1.00 Star Tiek (29892), 2.00 The World at War (83809), 3.00 Star Tiels: Voyager (26231), 4.00 WWF (45366), 5.00 Around the World (9811), 5.30 Migrity Morphin Power Rangers (5237), 6.30 The Simpsons (2637), 6.30 The Simpsons (3989), 7.00 Beverly Hills 90210 (80927), 8.00 Star Tiels: Voyager (66347), 9.00 Highlander (79811), 10.00 Renegade (89298), 11.00 Seinfeld (46095), 11.30 Duckman (95434), 12.00 60 Minutes (99309), 10.00 Seinfeld (40095), 11.30 Duckman (95434), 10.00 Seinfeld (40095), 11.30 Duckman (95434), 1.00 Seinfeld (40095), 11.30 Duckman (95434), 11.00 Seinfeld (40095), 11.30 Duckman (95434), 11.30 Duc Star Tiek (29892), 2.00 The World

(99309), 1.00 She-Wolf of London (57390), 2.00-6.00am Hit Mix Long Play (1067729).

SXY MOVIES SRY MOVIES
6.00am Brigadoon (1954)
187250J. 8.00 Madame X (1937)
(81231). 10.00 To Dance with the White Dog (1993) (35453). 12.00 Send Me No Flowers (1964)
(33322). 2.00 Story Book (1994)
(33453). 3.30 Other Wormer's Children (1993) (53250). 5.00
Hostaga for a Day (1993) (65347).
6.30 Gypsy (1993) (556811).
9.00 Murder Ore (71279). 10.00
Rainscan (1994) (826989). 11.35 Brainscan | 1994) (826989). 11.35 The Movie Show (352453). 12.05 Lies of the Heart (1993) (249835). 1.40 El Mariachi (1993)

(3589922), 3.00 Getting Gotti (1994) (50767), 4.30-6.00am Other Women's Children (43564). MONTE CHANNEL 6.00am Keep Your Seats Please (1936) (85892). 8.00 The Old Cu-riosity Shop (1984) (89873). 10.00 The Blue Bird (1940) (33095). 12.00 Who Done #? [1942] (3330-0, 2.00 Before Winter Comes (1969) (61892). 4.00 The Magic Bubble (1992) (1892). 6.00 The Concletge (1993) (58328), 8.00 Clear and Present Danger (1994) (20055076). 10.25 Kalifornia (1993) (751076), 12.25 Live Wire (1992) (5993187), 1.55 UFO: The

5,00-6.00am Haunters of the Deep (1984) (49564). SKY HOWES GOLD

12.00pm Call Me Madam (1953) (257163). 1.55 Sign of the Cross (1932) (60542724). 4.00 Modesty Blaise (1966) (5892). 5.00 The Conqueror | 1955) (32328). 8.00 Paths of Glory (1957) (37873). 10.00 Poltergeist II (1986)

Uninhibited (1991) (210835).

(726415), 11,40 The French Connection (1971) (512569), 1.25-3.05am The Pocky Honor Picture Show (1975) (220757).

7.00am Gne i is a Clue (9602279) 7.30 Gong for Gold (7187724). 7.35 The Pink Panther (9565763). 8.05 The Flame Trees of Thika (#219958). 9.00 When the Boat Cornes In (5734989), 10.00 Blaie's Seven (4757368), 11,00 The Vortex Short (90100298). The writer since (90700290).

11.05 Dr Who and the City of Desh (49498250). 1.00 Perry Mason:
The Case of the Lady in the Lake (58835057). 2.50 Paul Daniels'
Quick Trick (6811873). 3.00 The Bill (92763502), 5,20 To the Manor Born (3099328), 6,00 The Two Ronnies (2557908), 7,00 Morecambe and Wise (9821796). 8.00 Poldark (81695163). 9.05 Elizabeth R (97256237). 11.00 The Bob Monkhouse Show (3509182). 12.05 A Very Peculiar Practice (25356854). 1.10 Reilly Ace of Spes (2322293), 2.05-7.00am Shopping (4565816).

SKY SPORTS 7.00am World of Speed and Beauty (50873), 7.30 Basketbell All Star Game (27076), 9.30 Rug-by Union Update (18231), 11.30 Goals on Sunday (91340), 1.00 Big Time Boxing Special (23231). 3.00 Super Sunday – Live: Manchester Utd v Spurs (8468892), 6.30 ke Hockey – Live (184231), 9.00 Big Time Boxing Special (98960), 11.00-2.00am Football

SKY SPORTS 2 7.00am Soccer Extra (5087873). 11.00 Roller Hockey (1711415). 12.00 Gotf USA (8661328), 2.00 World Wide Rugby (3250811). 4.00 US PGA Senior Goff (4126540), 6.00 Rebet TV (7399863), 6.30 Powerboat World (3694255). 7.00 American Sports Cavalcade (3239328). 8:00 Golf USA - Live (9659521). 11,00 Rebel TV (4102231). 11.30 Power boat World (8670076). 12.00-1.00am Roller Hockey (8519038).

Special Weekend Goals (566796).

9.00am AM Live 10.00 The Fashion Show 11.00 Video Box 1.00 A Week in Review 2.00 Sport Live 5.00 Best of Buzzin' 7.00 Showbiz Live 8.00 A Week in Review 9.00 The Fashlon Show 9.30 Video Box 10.00 Stand-Up Stand-Up Live 12.30 The Sex. Show 1.00-6.00am Night Hours

LIVE TY

Pastimes

Chess William Hartston

12-year-old super-prodigy, notched up his second grandmaster scalp last weekend. Playing for Richmond in the 4 Nations Chess League, he beat Jonathan Levitt with a surprise mating finish in an endgame. Although the end came through a blunder by Levitt, McShane played the whole game with great maturity. When 12-year-olds beat grandmasters, you expect short tactical accidents, not an early queen exchange and delicate manoeuvring. Black had the advantage

b4. 38...Rcb8 would have 17 Rael Bd7 38 Ral Nxb4 been better than 18 Qe2 Rac8 39 Rd7 Rf8 38...Nxb4, and 41...Rb8?? 19 Nf3 Bd6 40 Raa7 Nc6 was fatal. He is mated after 20 Rd1 Bc6 41 Rab7 Rb8 42...Kf8 43.Rxf7. or 42...Kg7 21. Nd4 Bd5 42 Nf6+ 1-0

Luke McShane, England's 43.Rxf7+ Kh6 44.Rh7, or 42...Kh8 43.Rxb6 Rxb6 44.Rxf7 followed by Rh7.

5 Ngf3 cxd4 26 Kg1 g6 6 Bc4 Qd6 27 g3 Bf8 7 0-0 Nf6 28 a3 h5 6 Nb3 Nc6 29 b4 Bg7 9 Nbd4 Nd4 30 Nb3 b6 11 Bb3 Qc7 32 Ne4 b5 12 Qf3 Bd6 33 Be3 a5 after 24...Rxc4, but lost 14 Khl Be5 35 Rxd4 b4

White: Luke McShan **Black: Jonathan Levitt** 1 e4 e6 22 Bxd5 Nxd5 2 d4 d5 23 Bc1 Qc4 3 Nd2 c5 24 Qxc4 Rxc4 4 exd5 Qxd525 Rfe1 Rec8 10 Nxd4 a6 31 Nd2 R4c6 13 h3 Bh2+ 34 Bd4 Bxd4 his way after executing the correct plan of b5, a5 and 16 Be3 Re8 37 cxb4 Rb6

Perplexity

Misquotation:

Sure to frown in the wet conditions

The above phase is an anagram of - and a clue to - a well-known quotation. The number of letters in each word of the answer are 3, 2, 3, 6, 2, 3, 10.

A prize of the Larousse Desk Reference Encyclopedia will be awarded to the sender of the first correct answer opened on 4 April. Entries 10: Saturday Pastimes, the Independent. 1 Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5DL.

9 March answers: Champagne (riCHest AMong sPArklinG wiNEst; Parties (PoliticAl oR oTher cliquES); feast (FinE gASTronomy). Winner: Mrs H Spencer.

Bridge Alan Hiron

N-S game; dealer West North ₹109832

095 **496532** East **◆**J864 **\$32** ∜A Q OK 1087 **◊**J4 **\$**874 **♣Q** J 10 South

> **◆**AKQ1075 ∜попс **OAQ632** ♣A K

This was a rather good problem from the excellent magazine English Bridge, dis-

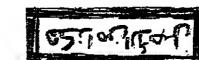
Originally, of course, you were not given the East-West hands but, even seeing the full deal, the winning play (although logical) is not obvious. West opened 1NT (12-14

points), East bid 20 and South closed the auction with ♥KJ7654 a firm 44. West led the 4Q and you were invited to plan the play.

The danger lies in losing a trump trick and three diamonds. The opening lead, however, is significant for West has chosen not to lead his partner's suit. This, almost certainly, places East with a can see the point; it was vital top heart (probably the king). In that case it is West who is for theo a trump return tributed free to all members strong favourite to hold the

After winning the lead. therefore, you bave all the necessary clues. The winning line is to lead OQ at trick twol Clearly West takes his king but cannot lead trumps without losing his trick in the suit.

Suppose West tries a second club. Declarer wins, cashes VA. and ruffs a diamond with dummy's solitary trump. Now, after coming to hand with a heart ruff, South cashes his top trumps and simply concedes a diamond to collect bis 10 tricks, You to keep East out of the lead, would have put an end to declarer's chances.



of the English Bridge Union. missing OK.

The big picture She's Gotta Have It Sun 11.40om C4

Before the era of bombastic blockbusters like Malcolm X, Spike Lee's joints started with the clever, small-scale drama, Sine's Gotta Have It, shot predominantly in black-and-white on a micro-budget in just 12 days. In this sassy, good-looking debut feature, the director plays one of three men (Tommy Redmond Hicks and John Canada Terrell are the other two enjoying a simultaneous relationship with the broad-minded Tracy Camila Johns. To save on costs further. Lee had his father, Bill, pen a catchy jazz score and also gave him a cameo role.

Television preview

RECOMMENDED VIEWING THIS WEEKEND by Gerard Gilbert



Bookmark Sat 8.05pm BBC2 Hamish Macbeth Sun 7.15pm BBC1 Encounters: Mad Dogs and Englishwomen Sun 8pm C4 Coronation Street - the Cruise Sun 8pm ITV Heart of the Matter Sun 10:55pm BBC1

lot was recently shored up for the Beeb by Bai- Dorset coast, where he regularly banged out 16,000 lykissangel and the returning Hamish Macbeth (Sun words a day - never editing one of them. atellite viewers who forked out the extra £9.95 to watch Mike Tyson annihilate Frank Bruno in 410 Useconds obviously got a bad a deal as things turned BBC1), the Highland copper with the Scottie dog and out, but not that much worse than those who coughed up £13.99 (the price at Blockhuster Video this week) for a Coronation Street video of Raquel and Curly's ence - our own pocket De Niro. In Sunday's episode. there's hanky panky among a sect of religious fun-damentalists, bacchanalian Boddhists with a taste for The cover of this special 76-minute escapade clearly states "only available on video" - and, in the presumed whacky baccy, and the conclusion (temporary, one belief that this was their only chance to share in feels) of last year's romantic cliffnanger.

Raquel and Curly's joy, something in the region of 750,000 Corrie fans have dug deep for the video. I'm If - and stranger things have happened - anyone was to make a film out of the 1970s pulp fiction of the late. Richard Allen, pseudonymous author of such football terrace classics as Skinhead, Suedehead and Bower not sure how they'll be feeling this weekend when ITV screens - yes - a special 60-minute episode. Coronation Street - the Cruise (Sun ITV) about Curly and Girls, and the subject of this week's Bookmark (Sat Raquel's honeymoon. Their £13.99 has bought them BBC2), then Robert Carlyle would surely be near the froot of the casting director's thoughts. Some ageing "skins" in Ian MacMillan's film (touchingly still kitted 16 minutes of exclusive Coronation Street. Not as bad The idea of screening this one-off seems to be to out in bovver gear late into their thirties) are convinced. lesi the water for a fourth weekly Coronation Street that the author of such authentic fiction must have been episode, in an attempt to end BBC1's traditional domone of them. In fact, he was a fiftysomething Irish-You'll never look a Canadian called Jim Molfat, living blame lessly on the same way again. inance of early Sunday evening viewing. This times-

On the subject of sub-cultures, Heart of the the constantly elenching jaw muscles, played by wee Matter (Son BBC1) has a film about Eestasy (ab) use. Robert Carlyle. And Carlyle is a magnificent pres- and we hear from a whole succession of youngsters. with pixilated eyes rolling around their heads like so many joint-winners at the 3.30pm at Doncaster. Is Ecstasy the new religion for the 1990s? Hold on, didn't we go through all this with dope in the late 1960s? Good old Joan Bakewell.

Still, rather synchronised tai-chi in a sweaty barn than a dose of rabies. The disease is a rather distant concept this side of Le Shuttle, but worldwide it yearly kills 100,000 people. Encounters: Mad Dogs and Englishwomen (Sun C4) follows the efforts of a British ver to prevent a rabies epidemic from sweeping Tanzania's Serengeti Wildlife Park, It Jooks a horrible way to die (be warned, there's footage of a boy in the throes), with victims contorting their bodies in violent spasms as they try to bite those around them. You'll never look at your pet labrador in quite the



The big match Leeds United v Aston Villa 4.30pm ITV Suo

Leeds United and Aston Villa, who contest an even looking Coce Cole Cut Final, have both drawn heavily from the sanks of the foreign legion this season. Leeds have profited from the Ghaniam Cony Vehical and, to a lesser extent, Sweden's Tongas Broth up front, while the Sen Salo Milosako. and Dwight Yorke from Trindad have, become a formidable styling permester for Villa. Will one of these players by the belance today, or will the match be won by players from closer to home like Leeds's captain, Gary McAllister (above), or Villa's dreadhought defender, Paul McGrath?

Saturday television and radio

BBC₁

7.25 News; Weather (5210255). **7.30 Children's BBC:** Iznogoud, 7.45 The Artbox Bunch, 8.00 Iznogaud, 8.10 The Flintstones, 8.35

The Addams Family.

9.00 Live and Kicking. Music from PJ & Duncan and Shed Seven (69915656).

12.12 Weather (2907255).
12.00 Grandstand. 12.20 Football Focus. 12.55 Racing from Newbury. 1.00 Brown Chamberlin Handicap Steeplechase, 1,10 News, 1,15 Skating: the free dance competition in the World Championships at Edmonton. 1.25 Racing from Newbury; 1.30 Lambourn Handicap Hurdle. 1.40 Swimming: the Optrex Olympic Trials from Ponds Forge, Sheffield. 1.55 Racing from Newbury: the 2.00 Hoechst Panacur EBF Mares' NH Novices Hurdle. 2.10 Rugby League: Live coverage of the Challenge Cup semi-final, Leeds v Bradford. Kick-off is at 2.15. 2.55 Swimming. 3.10 Rugby League: second half coverage of Leeds v Bradford, 3,50 Football Half-Times 4.00 Swimming. 4.40 Final Score. 5.10 Snooker: the draw for the first round of the Embassy World Championship, which begins on 20 April (1413946).

5.30 News; Weather (304052). * 5.40 Local News, Weather (224878). 5.45 Big Break (S) (4543851. *

6.15 The New Adventures of Superman. A wealthy couple want to add Superman to their rare collections (SI (466743). * 7.00 Noel's House Party. There's a Gotcha for Susan George, ISI (159236).

7.50 The National Lottery Live. Lionel Richie gets the balls rolling (833120).

8.05 Dalziel and Pascoe. The second of Alan Plater's warm and literate adaptations of the Reginald Hill novels, and Prunella Scales should provide enough reason to tune in, as a lecturer at a small university where the principal has been bumped off five years previously (S) (14657621, * 9.35 News and Sport; Weather (Followed by National Lottery Updatel (757217),

10.00 The Nose at Ten - Best of Comic Relief. Rik Mayall, Rowan Atkinson, Reeves and Mortimer,

and French and Saunders from 1991 (S) (91120). 10.30 Match of the Oay. Arsenal v Newcastle (S) 11.35 They Think It's All Over. From last Tuesday. The

guests are Shanon Davies and Bob Mills (R) (844410). * 12.05 Boxing: Richie Woodhall vs Salvador Yanaz. Woodhall makes a third defence of his European

middleweight btle (4125618). 12.55 FIEM Money Mania (Richard Fleischer 1987 US). Moronic chase movie in which four treasure hunters try to find the million dollars mentioned by a dying man (5563521).

2.25 Weather (6194618). To 2.30am. REGIONS. NI: 4.55pm Northern Ireland Results. 5.40

BBC 2

as Tyson/Bruno - but not good.

honeymoon.

6.00 Open University: Education: Making Readers for Life 1946-1236). 6.25 Maths 19443743). 6.50 Organic Chemistry (6651101). 7.15 A New Role for Men (5419255).7.40 Volcanic Iceland (4017255).8.05 What Is Music? (5275507). 8.30 Crossing the Border (6888323).8.55 Child's Play (6867830). 9.20 Education and Society (2030897), 9.45 The Chemistry of Life and Death (4203168), 10.10 Seeing Through Maths (1302878), 10.35 Statistics (9819255), 11.00 Global Firms in the Industrialising East (8498965), 11.25 An English Accent (6867588), 11.50 Modelling in the Motor Industry (8425781), *

12.15 Mud Glorious Mud. The varied wildlife that is

found in estuaries (RI (5328439).

12.40 SIM Gaslight (George Culor 1944 US).
Entertaining adaptation of Patrick Hamilton's pseudo-Victorian thriller with newly-wed Ingrid Bergman being driven mad by husband Charles Boyer. Bergamn won an Oscar and the fine cast also includes Joseph Cotten, Dame May Whitty and a teenage Angela Lansbury (55147859). 2.30 [133] Love is a Ball | David Swift 1963 US).

Charles Boyer again, this time stranded in a trashy flashy romantic comedy set in the French Riviera, where he has been hired to groom a panniless duke into a husband for an American heiress 121590304). 4.20 Best of Esther. Unusual wedding experiences (RI

(S) (4888439). 4.50 The Oprah Winfrey Show (5792755). *

5.30 TOTP2 (S) (798694).6.15 World Figure Skating Championships. The free dance from Alberta (S) (9307-43).

7.05 News and Sport; Weather (167439). *
7.20 Correspondent, It's Dealing with Drugs week on the BBC and Edward Stourton visits Poland, apparently the new gateway for drug smuggling into western Europe, and Julie Flint goes to

Somaliland to report on addiction to the powerful stimulant contained in Qat leaves (S) (244878). *
8.05 Bookmark Profile of cult author Richard Allen. See Preview (Followed by Video Nation Shorts) (S) 9.00 Court TV. More real-life American court cases. This

week, the case of 12-year-old Gregory Kingsley, who went to the courts in order to "divorce" his biological mother, who was claiming her rights to 9.50 Anatomy of a Murder (Otto Preminger 1959)

US). Superb courtroom drama, considered risque on release, with a great performance from James Stewart as the lawyer defending a soldier (Ben Gazzara) accused of murdering a bartender who had raped his wife (Followed by Weatherview) (88896385), * 12.30 Later with Jools Holland. With Sheryl Crow, P J

Harvey, Tindersticks, D-Influence and technodance auteur Moby (R) (S) (9643250). To

ITV/London

6.00 GMTV 6.00 News; Weather. 6.10 Eat Your Words. 6.40 Barney and Friends. 7.45 Saturday Disney. Steve Coogan, Terry Jones and Eric Idle are in to plug their movie of The Wind in the Willows. 8.55

Mighty Morphin Power Rangers (4259976).

9.25 Teleganticmegavision. Gaby Roslin, SFX veteran Ray Harryhausen and Grand Prix commentator Jonathan Palmer are guests (2735236). 10.25 Spatz (R) (4381236).

10.55 It's Not Just Saturday (S) (4689014). 11.30 The Chart Show (R) (S) (76439). 12.30 Whizz Kids. Ultimate Kaos (13830).

1.00 News, Weather (54957168). * 1.05 Local News, Weather (54956439). * 1.10 Movies, Games and Videos (9172007). 1.45 Bugs Bunny (933217).

2.15 Carry on Nurse | Gerald Thomas 1959 UK). The second in the series and bullying matron Hattie Jacques is about to get a taste of her own medicine (300410).

3.45 Airwolf (R) (906323).

4.45 News; Sport; Weather (4235656). *
5.05 Local News, Sport (1401101).
5.25 Batman (1421965).
5.45 Catchphrase (S) (472781). *
6.15 The Shane Richie Experience, Louise provides the

musical relief as three more couples bash it out to et married in a TV studio (S) (967897). * 7.05 Barrymore. His kind of people (Including Lottery

Result) (880694), * 8.05 Stars in Their Eyes, People pretend to be Fats Domino, Jon Bon Jovi and, yes, Chas and Dave (S)

8.50 News; National Lottery Update; Weather

(601878). * 9.05 The Governor, Return of the Lynda La Plantescripted and produced drama starring Janet McTeer as the somewhat implausible prison governor. Our heroine has been in the States training as a hostage release negotiator. Guess what happens next (S) (933052). *
10.05 Testi Down and Out in Beverly Hills (Paul

Mazursky 1986 US). Peppy updating of Renoir's 1931 Boudu Saved from Drowning to 1980s Beverley Hills, where new-rich millionaire Richard Dreyfus saves tramp Nick Nolte from killing hImself and introduces him into his household. Bette

Midler plays his wife (3) (578743). 12.00 Pyjama Party. Katie Puckrick and the girlies' guests are Jacqueline Pirie and Lisa Riley from

Emmerdale (S) (2092811). 1.25 Funny Business (S) (6076434). 1.55 Tropical Heat (R) (S) (2638892). 2.50 God's Gift. Dabing game (2309989).

3.45 E! News Week in Review. Entertainment gosslp (7465811). 4.40 ITV Sport Classics II (11257873). 5.05 Coach (4856960).

5.30 News (75231). To 6.00am.

Channel 4

6.05 Sesame Street (R) (8132217). 7.05 Ulysses 31 (R) (5480743).

7.30 Super Mario Brothers (8052101). 7.45 First Edition (R) (8057656).

8.00 Trans World Sport (23588).
9.00 The Morning Line. Preview of today's top racing.

10.00 The Greatest. The cases for Jackie Stewart and Linford Christie (R) (S) (86385). * 10.30 NBA. Basketball (R) (29679).

11.00 Gazetta Football Italia (22675) 12.00 The Late Late Show (S) (83101).

12.30 The Great Maratha (7764168).
12.55 TEM Night Train to Munich (Carol Reed 1940 UK). Launder and Gilliat more or less recycled their script for Hitchcock's The Lady Vanishes for this entertaining propaganda thriller about a Czech scientist and his daughter being ushered out of Nazi Germany by undercover spy Rex Harrison (41930566). *

2.40 Channel 4 Racing from Doncaster The 3.00 Global Shopfitters Stakes, 3.40 William Hill Lincoln Handlcap, 4.15 Midland Copying Doncaster Shield Stakes, and 4.45 Cammidge Trophy (6f) (61962014).

5.05 Brookside Omnibus (S) (4714526). *

6.30 Right to Reply (S) (149). *
7.00 A Week in Politics (S) (8762).

8.00 Hidden Kingdoms. The common loon (also known to its friends as the great northern diver) followed through the course of one year in North America, as they face threats from pollution, tourism, fishing,

racoons and turtles (S) (7410). * 9.00 Auf Wiedersehen Pet. Hazel is becoming more than a handful for Barry (4946). *

10.00 The World of Lee Evans, Samantha Beckinsale

guests as the girl-next-door-whose has stolen the ug-eared one's affections (R) (S) (325830). 10.35 The Blue Light Zone: Tribal Cops. The Native

American Police who patrol the vast Laguna, Navajo and Acoama reservations of New Mexico 11.10 NYPD Blue. An episode from the second series ,

with Detective Andy Sipowicz tracking down the killer of an abused wife (R) (S) (735588). * 12.05 Example Prince of the City (Sidney Lumet 1981 US). Over three hours is a long time to be stuck in the

an gloom of Lumet's hyper-realistic New York police department, where Treat Williams' narcotics cop has agreed to be wired up and so inform on his corrupt colleagues. Rambling, and with an OTT performance by Williams, who is acted off the screen by the economical Jerry Orbach (50034144). 3.10 White Homeland Commando. Drama looking at

the rise of a right wing white supremacist group. Stars William Dafoe.(R) (S) (7.11.2724). 4.20 The Girlie Show. Last night's show (R) (S) (6235095). To 5.10am.

ITV/Regions

As Landon except: 12.30pm Movies, Games and Victos (1.3830), 1.10 Film: Harbie Rides Again (98177762). 2.55 seeQuest DSV (1990385), 3.50 RoboCop (8715697), 5.20 Battern (1049656), 12.00 Live from the Ligatome (4517057): 12.55am Pylema Party (5565989): 2.25am Runny Business (2874502): 2.50am Pirit Das Boot (24910255): 5.00-5.30am Warted Dead or Afive (59908). THE THE MODERNE

As London except: 12.30pm Movies, Games and Videos (1383Q): 1.10 Sturtmesters (5839694): 1.50 Film: The (1383): 1.10 Surtmestes (383559): 1.50 Finit He Amazing Captain Nemo (77340323): 5.10 Jine: Rull Time (3462236): foiris: Scoretine (3462236): 5.20 Batman (1049656): 12.00 Film: Sparle: The Price of Passion (200347): 1.40am Furny Business (4857182): 2.10am Pylams Party (2851453): 3.35am War of the Worlds (3984076): 4.25am Que the Music (6227076): 5.20-5.30am Pylams (9803873)

5.30am Profile (8807873). CRITINI.

As London except: 12.30pm Heartend (1.3830). 1.40
The Munsters Today (42129236). 2.05 Warrer Brothes Cartoon (30607472). 2.30 RoboCop (1915694). 3.20
Alovei (6572255). 4.15 The Middas Touch (494526).
5.10 Central Metrib - Goals Edin (3452236). 5.20 Batmer (2049656). 4.35am Joblinder (5537415). 5.20-5.30am Asian Eye (8307873).

AN As London except: 12.30 jmm The Munsters Today (13830). 1.10 West: House: (9172007). Wales: Roadrumer (13357156). 1.40 Wales: A World of Wonder (42129236; 1.45 West: A World of Wonder (42129507). 42.1232:51, 149 West A Wondor Wondor 4212:5507.
2.05 West: Carton Time (20376978). 2.10 West: Carton Time (44823694). 2.15 Movies, Genres and Videos (598526). 2.45 Robotop (9.17439). 5.20 Bertrian (1049656): 12.00 Live from the Lilydrom (4617057). 12.56am Pijerra Party (5665989). 2.25am Rinny Business (2874502). 2.50am Pilm: Das Boot (24970255). 5.00-5.30am Wented Dead or Alive (59908).

As London except: 12:30pm Movies, Garnes and Videos . 85 London geople 12.3 Julyin Works, Garres and Video (13893). 1.10 A World of Wonder (13357156): 1.40 Carbon (52863471). 1.55 Father Dowling Mysteries (9860217). 2.55 Arwolf (1990385). 3.50 RoboCop (6715697). 5.20 Berman (1049656). 12.00 Live from The Lilychome, (4617057), 12.55am "Pylama Party (5565989), 2.25am Furiny Business (2874502), 2.50am Firm Das Brot (24910255), 5.00-5.30am Free

WESTCOUNTRY.

As Landon except: 12.30pm Movies, Games and Videos 0.38301, 1.10 Film: Kavik the Well Dog (98177762). 2.55 Knight Rider (1990385), 3.50 Airwolf (6715697). 233 Ning (Nutr 1390303), 330 MW00 (87 13037) 520 Betman (2049556), 12.00 Live from the Liydrome (4617057), 12.55am Pyörria Party (5555969), 2.25am Furmy Business (2874502), 2.50am Films Das Boot (24910255), 5,005.30am Wanted Dasd or Alve (59508).

As C4 except: 11.00am The Avengers (22675). 12.30pm Board Suppl (7764168), 6.30 Holycels (1491 7.00 News (153236). 7.15 Halen Yn Y Gwaed (428120). 8.15 Hel Strason (755526): 8.45 Yng Nghwmni Carvi (754897), 9.15 The Long Johns (687859) 9.30 The World of Lea Evers (195526), 10.05-10.35 pm; Undercover Britain (902830).

Radio

Radio 1 97 549 BM 2 BM

43.50 Me 78.

2.5 2.5

7.00am Claire Sturgess 10.00 Fevin Greening 12.30 Danny Baker 2.30 Jo Whiley 5.00 John Peel 7.00 Lovegroove Dance Par ty with Danny Rampling 9.00 Ra-dio 1 Rap Show 12.00 Essential Ma. LTJ Bukem 2.00 Annie Nightingale's Chill Out Zone 4.00-7.00am Lynn Parsons Radio 2

6.00am Mo Dutta 8.05 Blian Mattnew 10.00 Judi Spiers 12.00 Hayes on Saturday 1.30 The Queen of Pomance 2.00 Martin Helner on Saturday 4.00 meren Pener on Sacroby 4.00
Mrch Barraclough 5.00 Janis Ian
in Concert 6.00 Paul Heiney with
thestile 7.00 Lagends of Light
Music 7.30 Pussian Balliet Classics 9.30 David Jacobs 10.00
Shendan Morley 12.05 Charles
New 4.00 7.00 meren by Event Nove 4.00-7.00am Mb Dutta Radio 3

7.00am Pecord Review, Includes Wagner: Prelude: Lohengur. Schubert: Pondo in A. Gade. Symphony No 1 in C minor Morrison compares recordings of Decussy's pland preludes. 10.15 Record Pelesse, Howells

Tho, Parry: Piano Concerto in P sharp. 11.15 Persoues, Samert Neetle investigates the Royal Classics

Paradice Pondel Earl Elegiac

t 2.00 Private Passions, Michael Berlieley talks to the conductor Sir Colin Davis about his musical favountes. 1.00 News: Cold War Hot Seience. Georgina Ferry meets.

scientific pioneers working in Britain in the Fittles who set the stage for the curion is. tion in biotechnology (4/4). 1.20 Vintage Years, Richard Wigmore explores the life of councontributions from his son Mark. With extracts from Purcell's King Arthur and The Oriando, Socarme and Therato. ra, and Britter's Midsummer

hat.: 5 Gream, 13/5) 3.20 The Classical Accordion. Featuring a performance by accoldionist Joseph Petric. (3:3). 4.00 The SBC Cychestras. SBC lational Orchestra of Wales' moreny No 1 in 3 minor.



Choice

Julian Pettifer (left) presents the view from the Philippines in Asia File (11.30am R4), a new series looking at life in the East; Michael O'Donnell presents the view from inside Jeanette Winterson's head in Utopia and Other Destinations (6.50pm R4), a new senes asking people about their idea of

5.00 Jazz Record Requests. 5.45 Music Matters, Ivan Hewett talks to Richard Rodney Benmusic coverage in the press with Andrew Porter, Richard Morrison and Frank Johnson. 6,30 Live from the Met. Buret's Carmen, Cast includes Derivce

Graves, mezzo (Carmen). E chard Margison, tenor (Don Josey, Chorus and Orchestra of Yark Jaha Fione Act 1. 7.50 James Levine. The Met ropolitan Opera artistic director talks to Terence McNatly.i Act 2. (5.35-8 50 The Met Opera Quiz.: Act 3, (9.35-10.00 in 10.30 Blue Skies.

11.00-1.00am Creative Jazz Or-chestra. A 1995 concert by this 15-piece prohestral conducted by composer Mike Gibbs, During the interval, Alyn Shipton talks to Mike Gibbs and Mark-Anthony Tumage. 5.55-7.00am Open University Maths: Solving Inequalities. 6.15 Developing World, 6.35 Class in Britain Today.

Radio 4

92,254 60% (M. 19880) (M. 6.00am News Erieting. 6.10 Farming Today. 6.50 Prayer for the Day. 6.55 Weather

8.58 Weather 9.05 Sport on 4. 10.00 News, Loose Ends. 11.00 News: The Week in West-

11.30 Asia File, Julian Petiter Jisits Subic Bay in the Philicoines. the US havy base turned boom-ing free popt (1/6). See Choice 12.00 Money Str. 12.25 The flews Guiz. 12.55 Weather. 1.00 News.

1.10 Any Questions! Jonathan Dimbleby's guests are Dr kim Howells MP, Shadow Trade and Industry spokesperson: Ruth Lea, Head of Policy at the Insti-tute of Directors, author Dr. Ros-alind Miles; and Fod Richards MP, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Wales. 1.55 Shipping Forecast. 2.00 News, Any Answers? 2.30 Saturday Playhouse: Elsie.

Dans, Gert and Daisy, Anne Cautheld's account of the lives of Eisle and Dons Waters finds them larking about in a recording studio as the ebuthent cockney characters Gert and Daisy, who were to take them away from the East End and into a world the, had only ever dreamed about. With Celia Im-

ne and Susie Blake.
4.00 News: Working history. John Stater reveals how the di-legal excavation of buried trea-sure near Dublin has provided frence departs appur events two millenia ago. (2.5). 4.30 Science Now, Feter Evans

and guests review the results of Megalab 96 5.00 File on 4. 5.40 Letters from Found Accur. 5.50 Shipping Porecast. 6.00 Six O'Clock News. 6.25 Week Ending 6.50 Utopia and Other Destina-

trons, Michael O'Conne'l tacks to the novelest Jeunette Wintersan about her pemanal vision of Utopia, (1 6). See Chaice 7.20 Abieldbscope Feature.
Pobert Dawson Social miestigates tonality, modality, the su-ence of sound, and the western concept of mais) and minor. 7.50 Saturday 14 ght Theatre. in John Hambon's issychological drama, a womar goes on retreat to an oblated

sottage on the Yorkshire

sion. With Pam Fems.

moors, where one celeves sha

is fating a life-on-death deta-

9.20 Mas bir Mind. 9.50 Ten to Ten. 9.59 Weather.

10.00 News. 10.15 An Unfortunate Turn of Events, John Howard tells the story of the decision taken by Cotto-Cola to change the recipe of its classic drink, 1816.
10.30 Going Wrong, A cark, psythological for Her by Ruth Ren-dell, With Peter Wingfield. 12.00 News.

12.30 The Late Story. The Diary By Andrea Levy. From the Lon-don Book Fair. 12.48 Salpoing Forecast.
1.00am As World Service.

Radio 5

6.05am Dirty Tackle 6.30 Brian Hayes at Breakfast 9.05 Weekend with Kershaw and Whittaker 11.05 Top Gear 11.35 Crime 11.05 (cg. 1447) 1.35 (cme Lesk 12.00 M.dda, Edition 12.15 Sportscall 1.05 Sport on Five 6.06 Sir-District 7.35 Straight Up 8.05 The Box 8.35 Dailyn on Satinday 10.05 The Treatment 11.00 fromt Erra 12.05 After Hours 2.00 Jo All Night 5.00-6.05am Morring Reports Classic FM

6.00am Sarah Lunas 9.00 Classic Dountdown 12.00 Classic Gartening Forum 1.00 Alan Mann 3.00 The Saturday Alternative **6.00** Crassic America **7.00** The World Opera Season, Rossini-Le Comte Cry John Aler, Sumi Jo. Gries Caphemade, Lyon Opera Crchestra John Eliot Gardiner 10.00 Digestic Guiz 12.00 Andre lean **4.00** Diassic Countdown 5.00-6.00am O'chae! Fanstone Virgin Radio

To earlier to allow the

6.00am Janey Lee Grace 8.00

10.00 Richard Skirner 2.00 Mark Forest 6.00 Milon Johnson

Pars & John's Greatest Hits.

10.00 Rook Banks 2.00-**6.00a**m ಗರಿಸಿತ್ತರ ಗೀತಿಯತ್ತಿ World Service

1.00am World News 1.10 Press Review 1.15 Chambions 1.30 From Curl Dwn Correspondent 1.50 Write Ch 2.00 Newsday 2.30 The Ed Stewart Stow 3.00 Modd News 3.15 Sports Roundum 3.30 Fourth Estate 3.45 Science View 3.50 Waveguide 4.00 Newsdes/ 4.30 Short Story 4.45 Not a Turn for the Worse 5.00 ewaday 5,30 in Praise of God

Satellite

7.00am Undun (712859). 10.00 Ghoul-Lashed (47533965). 11.45 The Perfect Farmly (297-4410), 12.00 WWF (50385), 1.00 The Hit Mix (69033), 2.00 The Adventures of Brisco County Junior (30120), 3.00 One West Walkilu (66472), 4.00 Kung Fu, the Legend Continues (85507), 5.00 Mystenous Island (3-172). 6.00 WWF (89897). 7.00 Stiders (20168). WVF (89897), 7.00 States (20168), 8.00 Unsolved Mystems (207548), 9.00 Cops I (74491), 9.30 Cops II (51014), 10.00 Dream On (44236), 10.30 Revelations (20656), 11.00 The Movie Show (86236), 11.30 For-ever Kinght (5907-1), 12.30 WKRP in Cincinnab (20322), 1.00 Saturday Night Live (41960), 2.00-7.00am Hit Mix Long Play (1090057).

SKY MOVIES

6.00am Blood on the Moon (1948) (27431) 8.00 Bundle of Joy (1956) (21472) 10.00 How I Got Into Col-lege (1989) (75694), 12.00 Butch and Sundance: The Early Days (1979) (44323), 2.00 Krull (1983) (47061), 4.00 Oh, Heavenly Dog! (1980) (8304). 6.00 The Air Up here (1994). Comedy staming Kevin Bacon and Charles Grona Maina (23255). 8.00 Intersection (1994). Drama staming Richard Gere and Sharon Stone (95472). 10.00 Robocop 3 | 1993). Action thiller starring Robert Burke and Nancy Allen (418897). 11.45 Bare Exposure (1993). Erotic comedy staming Ashke Rhey and Andrea Suzzane (744965). 1.15 Bitter Harvest (1993) (481182) 2.50 Colour of Love (1992) 1435637), 4,25-6,00am How I Got Into Callege (1989) (790328).

MOSTE CHANNEL

6.00am Explores at West Poley (1985) (3628526). 7.05 Gabricle and the Doodleman (1984) (6778439), 8.05 Transformers - The Mone (1986) 191676946), 10.00 Romantic Undertaking (1995) (73236), 12.00 Sister Act 2: Back in the Hab! (1993) (42965). 2.00 Sands of the Desart (1960) (47043), 4,00 Remarks Undertaking (1995) (6946), 6,00 Bandit Eandit (1994). Action drama starring 5man Bloom and Bhan Krause 1218971. 8.00 Sister Act 2: Back on the Habit (1993). Comedy starring Whoop Goldberg and Magge Smith (93014), 10.00 So I Married an Aze Murderer (1993). Comedy starring Mike Myers and Nancy Travis. (917743). 11.35 House of Secrets (1994). Thriller starring Melissa Gilbert and Bruce Boxleitner (882878). 1.10 Fight from Justice (1993) (471705), 2.50 Incident in a Small Town (1993) (434279), 4.25-6.00am Bandit BanSKY MOVIES GOLD

4.00pm The Lost Weekend (1945) (6033). 6.00 The Last American Hero (1973) (52977). 8.00 Coccon (1985). (1973) (3/277), East Carna staring Light-hearted, lantasy charna staring Steve Guttenberg and Don Ameche (77014), 10.00 The Eiger Sanction (1975). Thiller starring Clint Eastwood and George Kennedy (82251878). 12.15 Nexada Smith (1966) (92596279). 2.25-4.00am The Murrmy's Shroud (1966) (452540). DK GOLD

7.00am Give Us a Clua (5307007). 7.30 Going for Gold (7110052). 7.55 The Sullivans (30779588). 10.00 Bergera (1478476). 11.00 Classic Sport (4852912), 12.00 Neighbours (19082385), 2.15 East-Enders (18923656), 5.00 Titl Death Enders (18923656). 5.00 Titl Death US Do Part (2776149). 5.35 Fall and Rise of Regnald Perrin (1306491). 6.15 Comrade Dad (6225472). 6.50 It Ain't Haif Hot, Mum (1875236). 7.25 The Upchat Connection (2607052). 7.55 Bread (6641656). 8.30 Colditz (98456101). 9.35 Tenko (67731588). 10.40 Danger UXB (89865323). 11.45 Film: Escape to Burma (6577694). 1.20 Public Eye (2346873). 2.15-7.00am Shopping at Night (1722347).

SNI SPORTS
7.00am World Sport Special
(90014), 7.30 Racing News
(19149), 8.00 ice Warnors (74859),
9.30 Countdown to the Super League
(32946), 11.00 Schoolboy Football:
Northern Ireland v Scotland (28897),
12.00 Sports Saturday (62743),
2.00 Rugby Union, Pilkington Cup
Semi-Final: London Irish v Lecester
(8282/272), 5.20 World Sport Sport) (8482472). 5.30 World Sport Special (5491). 6.00 Opposite Lock (34385)

(3493). 6.00 Opposite Lock (34385). 8.00 Boxing (39830). 10.00 Bushido (58965). 11.00 Rugby Union Update (10149). 1.00 Boxing (54960). 3.00-4.00am Bushido (17298). SKY SPORTS 2

7.00am Soccer AM (5010101) 11.00 YWF (17447-3), 12.00 Golf USA (8694656), 2.00 Saturday Ringside (3290439), 4.00 Ice Warnors (4166168), 6.00 Skiff Salling (3094651), 6.30 Inside the PGA Se nicr Tour (9399043), 7.00 Baskethal Alistar Game (1769052). 9.00 Golf -USA - Live /3274491). 11.00-1.00am Opposite Lock (2081168).

9.00am AM 10.00 The Fashion Show 11.00 Video Box 1.00 The Week in Review 2.00 Sports 6.00 Best of Buzzin' 8.00 Showbar 9.00 The Fashen Show 9.30 Video Box 10.00 Stand-Up 11.00 The Sex Show 12.00 Stand-Up 12.30 The Sex Show 1.00-9.00am Night Hours



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